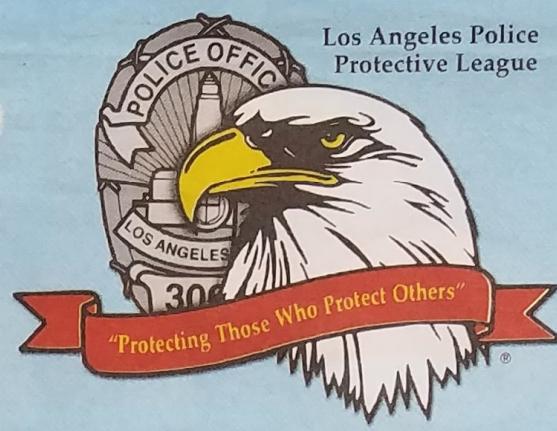


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The  
**Thin Blue Line**

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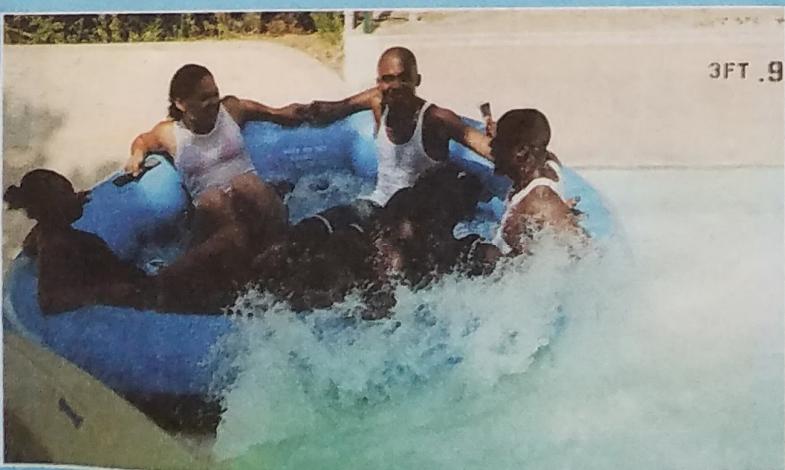
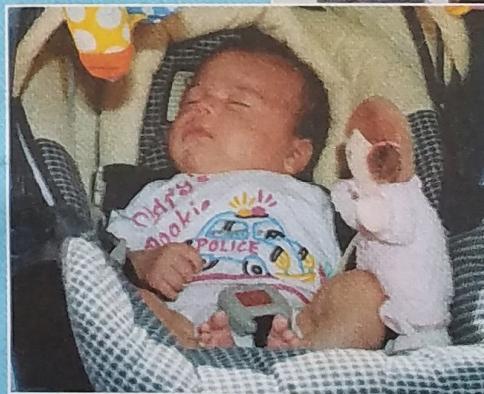
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15TH ANNUAL LOS ANGELES POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE PRIVATE PARK PICNIC  
(CONTINUED ON PAGES 30-31)

Photos courtesy of Barbara Carranza



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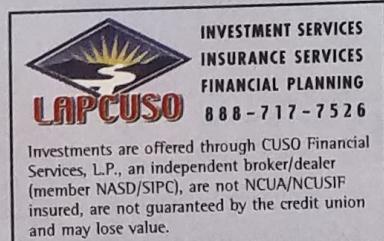
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## CREATIVE THINKING CAN RETURN MORE OFFICERS TO THE STREETS

Bob Baker, President

During the last several months, we have experienced many positive reforms at the Department, and the promise of more remains. However, concerns still persist over the effective allocation of the officers on the Department, particularly as the city continues with a slowdown in hiring and limited funds for hiring additional officers.

We all know that we can do more to make our city safe if we have more officers. With additional officers, we can continue to cut overtime, have more people at our disposal for deployment needs and implement more creative strategies to combat crime. As Chief Bratton has pointed out on numerous occasions, we are policing "on the cheap," and now it is time to take a closer look at our available resources – both with personnel and funding for needed equipment – and ensure we are structuring the Department in the most effective and intelligent manner.

There are a couple of things that are currently going on that warrant a closer look at the allocation of police officers

within the Department. One is the fact that numerous advanced pay grade positions within the Department are vacant, yet officers of all ranks have not been identified to fill these vacancies. Another issue is that significant officer resources are needed to comply with the implementation of the consent decree. We have several hundred officers who are not performing traditional law enforcement functions; rather they are working in a risk management role. Therefore, the reality is that additional officers are pulled out of a patrol capacity to fulfill these administrative duties.

Another challenge is the collapsing infrastructure and a lack of modern tools at the Department, namely computers and equipment. While the LAPD has started down the right road this past year, more needs to be done.

The problem is that the men and women of this Department need to see relief in sight. Your jobs become increasingly stressful as these situations arise and fewer resources are available to draw upon. While Chief Bratton has

secured a COPS' MORE (Office of Community Oriented Policing, U.S. Department of Justice, Making Officer Redeployment Effective) grant for the LAPD, we need to continue to do more.

This is a step in the right direction. We hope the City Council will follow this example and work to provide additional funding for our Department – we urgently need a transfusion of bodies into the field.

Putting more officers back on the streets must be a team effort between officers, Department management, the League, the Police Commission and the City Council. While funds may not be

immediately available to hire more officers, we need to continue to seek out grants and other funding sources to support essential programs.

There is relief in sight, and we will soon reach the day when we will have more – more personnel, more funding and more resources – and can do more for both the department and the community. We need to take a creative approach in our efforts, and band together to continue to make sure our officers are empowered to do their jobs, and our local residents feel and remain protected. ♦



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# HOMELAND SECURITY

Mitzi Grasso, Vice President

Last month, Mayor Jim Hahn held Los Angeles's first Homeland Security Leadership Summit to provide information and networking opportunities to government executives and leaders on homeland security. The summit, which convened mayors, security experts, public health experts, public safety experts, economists and media experts from across the country, coincided with the release of a report by the United States Conference of Mayors that found that local governments continue to need federal funding for homeland security measures.

**Clearly, cities across the country are on the front line of homeland security, but in the back of the line for funding. Like so many people who support our military action in Iraq, I am concerned that we are sending \$87 billion to Iraq for reconstruction, but we can't even get \$4 billion spent in direct funding to our first responder police officers and firefighters – to protect Americans.**

Mayor Hahn was right when he said, "In the post 9/11 era, cities face new challenges that require a strong dialogue between all levels of government." One of the Mayor's reasons for hosting the summit was to send a message to Congress that local governments across the country are willing partners in the effort to secure our homeland. But more needs to be done. The LAPPL has been urging federal elected officials for months to increase funding and support of law enforcement organizations. Specifically, Washington must increase funding for "first responders" – law enforcement organizations, such as the LAPD, who would be first on the scene of a domestic terrorist threat or attack.

As the first responders to homeland threats, the LAPD and other police forces need state and federal support to provide the training and equipment to adequately protect our local residents – and our officers – in the event of such attacks.

At the summit, Mayor Hahn led a discussion on the distribution of federal funding to cities and called for a better

system of allocating homeland security funds to cities that are home to the nation's most valuable economic assets. Frankly, the federal government must help share the burden for the funding of overtime pay for extra security, as the LAPD and other local police departments are often placed on tactical alert during high terror warning periods.

Even though police departments are expected to be at the ready for these types of attacks, the orders from the federal government come in the form of unfunded mandates that do not have funding or resources attached to support them. California now spends more than \$500 million annually on homeland security. Right now the cities, the counties and the states have borne all the costs. The need for federal support was underscored by the release of a U.S. Conference of Mayors report on the status of homeland security funding. Of the more than 150 cities across the country that participated in the study, many reported that efforts to achieve heightened security have been hindered by delayed federal funding. As many of you know, the City continues to update its comprehensive assessment of security-related needs in all city departments, identifying and prioritizing more than 296 separate projects, totaling almost \$250 million. Since September 11, 2001, the City of Los Angeles has spent over \$138 million on security enhancements.

## Bringing Smiles During Halloween

Nestlé has done it again. Thanks to the generous support of Nestlé USA and Gayle Ahrens in particular, the Los Angeles Police Department was able to team up with Nestlé this past Halloween to bring smiles to children. For the fifth year in a row, Nestlé provided candy for officers to give away at various LAPD stations. Through their continued support, Nestlé is proving to be a good corporate citizen and a socially responsible company.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

- Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
- No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
- Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
- Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

**IUPA** International Union of Police Associations, A.F.L.-C.I.O., representing over 100,000 police officer members in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Alaska and the continental U.S. in 580 locals.

**NAPO** National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 220,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.

**CCLEA** California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.

**SCALE** Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 10 police officer associations.

**BIG 11** An informal association of the 11 largest sworn law enforcement associations in the State of California.

**BIG 50** An informal association of the 50 largest law enforcement associations in the United States.

## THIN BLUE LINE (THE)

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## TRADITION WITH VISION

Ted Hunt, Secretary

When I first ran for Director, I promised to "Change the Way the League Did Business." Over the past decade, the League has changed significantly from a club/association into one of the most powerful police unions in the nation. We use our influence for the betterment of individual officers, betterment of the Department, and betterment of the people of the City of Los Angeles whom we swore and promised to protect.

Back in the mid-1990's LAPD was suffering badly with horrible image problems which were based on a parochial system of mismanagement, out of date policies, and a patriarchal attitude. LAPD was living off the press clippings of those great men and women who sacrificed so much during the 1950s through the 1970s to earn the reputation of LAPD.

It was the Rodney King Incident that brought the failings to the surface and eventually brought LAPD to its proverbial knees. I clearly remember the day that Willie Williams was sworn in as Chief of Police. Stanley Sheinbaum, then President of the LA Police Commission, tried to pin the chief's badge on Williams. But the badge slipped from Sheinbaum's hand and fell to the ground. More than just symbolic, by then LAPD was in full free-fall as an organization, headed for a similar crash.

To Willie Williams' credit, he did slow the rapid pace of decline and eventually curbed some of the anti-LAPD sentiment. But as time moved on, Williams left and more non-substantive modifications were made to the LAPD structure. The problems accelerated again, this time reaching critical mass. By the turn of the millennium, LAPD was destined to fully collapse if something bold and beyond the box wasn't done.

As the representative of LAPD officers, the League needed to bring the critical nature of LAPD's mismanagement and failed leadership to the surface in order to cause substantive and meaningful changes. We began to discuss specific facts with the news media. We spoke at educational and public forums on police reform. We addressed editorial boards and talked to all city politicians from the mayor, to city council, to police commission members.

Our arguments were presented very professionally, systematically and logically. We were armed with facts and figures, often illustrated on a handout. But the preconceived notions of nearly all those we spoke to were so strong, they all believed that we, the rank-and-file officers and our elected League representatives, were the problem.

Nearly all of these people denied real-

ity because they were so partial to their own belief system — most people call that bias — that they refused to even entertain or consider any objective or rational evidence contrary to their beliefs. In his book about risk, safety and terrorism titled *Fear Less*, Gavin De Becker wrote, "We deny because we're built to see what we want to see." There was major denial going on at City Hall and in the media.

It all began to change when we did something very bold. We reached out to our traditional adversaries, the "ACLU types." They were beginning to realize what we were saying was true — the "blame" for the problems at LAPD was misplaced. It wasn't the coppers on the beat or the detectives in the squad room, it was mismanagement of resources, lack of direction, no vision and isolationism. While we certainly didn't agree on the fix, we agreed that things weren't changing at LAPD because reformers were always trying to fix the bottom of the food chain and not the top wherein lie the root of problems.

We also took our message to the people of Los Angeles, giving speeches at service clubs, churches and community groups. We partnered with activist groups from all over the City who were angry and frustrated with the management of LAPD. It is interesting to note that a USC/Department of Justice study showed that the people of Los Angeles loved the "blue suiters" — they loved you the coppers, yet believed there something was wrong with the Department itself. They knew there was a problem but they weren't sure what it was.

How could they know? Even today many influential members of city government and the media don't get it. It was happening right under their noses, but they didn't see it. They don't understand the vital role that the League has played in changing LAPD.

We have a clear vision and visible track record on demanding changes to LAPD. We can document that back to 1998, when the League began to take an active and aggressive role in demanding and driving change. We started with upward feedback on captains (rating your captain). Nearly every major, successful corporation has a feedback program for top management. But our use of the standard business practice (upward feedback) was called a "union trick."

Nearly all of the positive changes that you are seeing today at LAPD, was on our list of demands. But still, some members of the city and media still don't get it. Writing about changes at LAPD, one columnist said, "Even the notoriously recalcitrant rank-and-file union, the Police Protective League, appears willing to help." He couldn't be further from the truth? None are so blind as those who refuse to see. We haven't been recalcitrant, we have been a partner-leader in bringing changes to LAPD. It seems Gavin De Becker was obviously right, people "deny because we're built to see [only] what we want to see."

When we started to push for change, it was done based on a vision of what LAPD could become again, through a partnership between the management of LAPD and the League. Being a partner does not mean being subservient to another's wants and needs. In fact, partnering is just the opposite. It means cooperating and working toward common goals. It is called **collaboration** — literally meaning to *labor with*. It is exactly what we do when we get to a crime scene or a traffic collision. Whether it be handling a 211 there now or a homicide scene, coppers work together to get the job done. They collaborate at the scene to solve the problem.

continued on page 12

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## PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS

Tim Sands, Treasurer

### Military Personnel Loss of Excess Vacation Time

As I have stated in prior articles, I filed a class action grievance for officers who were activated in the military after 9-11-01, for loss of vacation time. In January 2003, some officers lost vacation time when they received their allotment of vacation time for 2002 because that put them over the two-year limit. The excess vacation time was put in the catastrophic leave bank. Officers who were activated in 2002 were not allowed to take a vacation due to being activated. After meeting with ERS and the CAO's office, we have come to an agreement to resolve the issue of lost vacation time. Any officer who was activated in the military for an extended period after September 11, 2001, and prior to January, 2003, and who lost vacation time in January 2003 due to not being able to take a vacation in 2002, will be reimbursed their vacation time, as long as we have their information to add them to the settlement of the class action grievance. If you were activated prior to January, 2003, you should have received a

letter from me in October, asking you to contact the League prior to November 4, 2003, to add your name to the list of officers. All officers who will be, or are on extended military duty due to the Iraq crisis, and who have not yet lost any vacation time, will be given a 15.2 dated March 31, 2003, by the Department, telling them to sell back all or some of their vacation time or they will lose it if they go over in January 2004. See attached notice below.

March 31, 2003

TO: All Concerned Personnel  
FROM: Employee Relations  
Administrator

Department employees who take extended leave of absence for active service in the military may accrue more vacation hours than the maximum number of hours allowable. Vacation time accrued over the maximum allowed will be credited to the Catastrophic Illness Leave Donation Program bank. Employees should therefore consider requesting a cash payment of their accrued vacation time prior to the start of the leave. The following is required to receive

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payment of accrued vacation time:

- Submit an Employee's Report, Form 15.7, to the Commanding Officer, Fiscal Operations Division, requesting such payment prior to the start of the leave.
- The request shall be for a cash payment of all accrued vacation time and shall include the proportionate part of the vacation time accrued during the year the leave is granted.
- Submit certified copies of orders, or certified forms provided by the City Controller, as evidence of entry into the armed forces of the United States and the date provided as described in Manual §3/703.20. Certification

required by this section may be made by any commissioned officer.

Employees must have completed their qualifying year of service for the City and accrued vacation time.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Fiscal Operations Division at (213) 978-6650, or Employee Relations Group at (213) 485-6552. (End of notice)

Additionally, please see the Divisional report section for the military liaison's article this month on page 33. If you have questions, please contact me at [TimSands@lappl.org](mailto:TimSands@lappl.org).

Take care and be safe!

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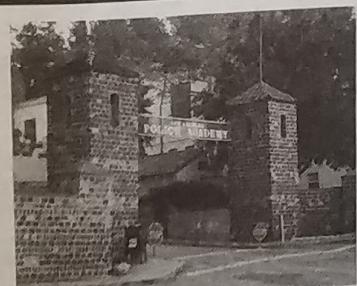


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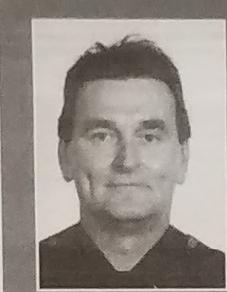
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## WORKERS' COMPENSATION ISSUES

Luther Lutz

Now that the recall election is over, maybe the State can get down to business and address some of the problems that need to be resolved. In the days leading up to the election, the State Legislature passed a lot of bills, which were signed by Governor Davis. The cost of the legislation that was passed in the days leading up to the election will have a huge impact on the State's budget. The problem is that no one really knows the cost or impact some of the legislation will have on the economy or small business. Until the costs can be determined, you better hang on to your wallet.

One item that is being given a lot of attention is workers' compensation reform. The rising costs associated with workers' compensation have an enormous impact on employers. These rising costs are causing some employers to move to other states, while others are cutting the size of their workforce and employee benefits. You are mistaken if you feel that the workers' compensation mess does not affect you, because it does.

For the average person, it is hard to translate workers' compensation costs into real dollars, so let me give you an example. My son has a small company and has been lucky because he has not had an employee file a workers' compensation claim during the last five years, so he gets a reduced rate. As a

result of the reduced rate, he pays \$8.24 for every hour one of his employees works, which is \$329 per week for each employee. I thought I did not hear him correctly until he showed me invoices for over \$10,000 a month for his workers' compensation insurance. What is even worse is that in January 2004, workers' compensation rates are supposed to go up an additional 12 percent. I am not suggesting that if the workers' compensation rates were not so exorbitant that it would all be used to increase employee salaries, but certainly a portion of it could be used for that purpose.

Workers' compensation costs are driving many businesses to go out of business or to relocate to other states, which means less tax revenue, which is where the money comes to pay our salaries. This fiscal year the City of Los Angeles allocated \$142 million dollars to pay for workers' compensation, of which \$60 million is allocated to the Department. These figures do not include the cost for the salaries of employees while they are off work on IOD time, which is a hidden cost that significantly increases the cost of workers' compensation for the City.

Injured workers deserve to receive the best medical care possible when they sustain work-related injuries, but the money should go to them, not to enrich

doctors and attorneys.

In trying to resolve problems that officers have with the workers' compensation system, it really becomes apparent that they do not understand how the system works, or, that they received bad advice from some well-meaning person that does not know how the system works.

Problems typically arise for officers when they are trying to resolve conflicts regarding medically caused work restrictions, i.e., when they are trying to change assignments, compete for advanced pay grade positions, or promote. Remember, neither you nor the Department can modify medically related work restrictions because of a belief by either party that they are not longer valid or because of transfer or promotional opportunities. Usually, work restrictions can only be changed by the employee's treating doctor. However, restrictions imposed by a workers' compensation judge at a workers' compensation hearing are binding on both the employer and the employee and cannot be modified by an employee's treating doctor after the award has been issued. These restrictions can only be modified by going back to court and having a workers' compensation judge modify the restrictions based on new medical evidence.

If you have a workers' compensation case pending, make sure you remain in contact with your attorney and know what medical restrictions he is trying to get the court to award you. You do not want to end up with an award that has so many work restrictions that it will prevent you from being promoted or results in your transfer to another position or division because your work restrictions do not permit you to remain in your current assignment.

Another issue officers are having are

financial problems when their IOD benefits run out and their payroll status is changed to state disability (state rate), which is \$490 a week. When you are off work on IOD time, you need to keep track of the number of days that you have used due to your injury, so that you can make financial plans should you use all of your IOD time and be placed on state rate. When you have used your 26 days of IOD time, Fiscal Operations Division (FOD) will stop your IOD pay without making any notifications. In most cases, officers were not aware that they had exhausted their IOD time until they did not receive any money on pay day. When they frantically called to find out why they did not get paid, they were told they had used all of their IOD time and they would not be receiving any more money from the Department. They were then told they would be receiving state rate, which is paid by the City Controller's Office, not FOD. This causes a whole new series of problems for officers on long-term IOD status.

When you are placed on state rate, you are no longer on the Department's payroll, which means that your medical insurance is not longer being paid by the City and you have to pay the entire cost of your insurance if you want to maintain your medical insurance. If this happens to you, call the Insurance Department at the Police Protective League, at (800) 736-7070, to make arrangements to have your medical insurance paid so you do not lose your health insurance.

If you are having problems or have questions regarding workers' compensation issues, or have questions about applying for a disability pension, give me a call at the League, (213) 251-4554. ♦

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## HONORING THOSE WHO PROTECT POLICE OFFICERS

Peter Repovich

As much as possible, the League likes to take the time to honor those in our city's leadership or within the community who make it a priority to protect our police officers and the public safety of Los Angeles' residents. That is why in September, we hosted a reception along with the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City (UFLAC), the firefighters' union, to congratulate City Council President, The Honorable Alex Padilla, on his recent, unanimous re-election to another term as president of the Los Angeles City Council.

We also honored Council President Padilla for his commitment to the public safety community of Los Angeles. As police officers and firefighters, every day we put our lives on the line to protect this fine city, and Council President Padilla works each day to protect us and ensure that we have the resources and support we need to do our jobs well.

As some of you may know, I first met Alex when he ran for office nearly five years ago, in the winter of 1998. As a candidate for a hotly contested race for City Council in the northeast Valley, Alex knew that public safety within the city was of utmost concern. As a result, the leadership of the LAPPL and UFLAC – the working women and men of the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles City Fire Department – got to know, and came to sup-

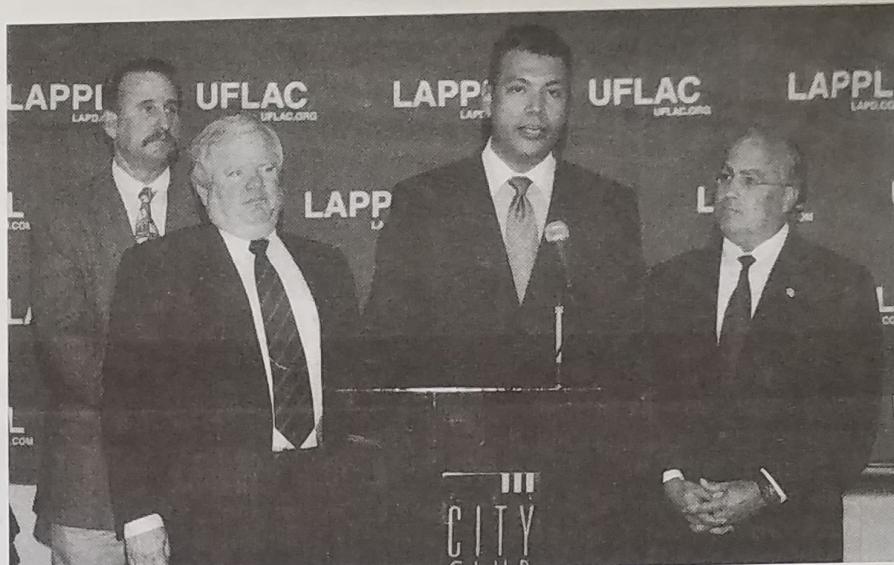
port, this promising candidate.

In Alex, we saw someone who understood that public safety wasn't merely about throwing money at our problems. Making our streets safe and ensuring that our homes and our businesses wouldn't be at risk from fire or disaster wasn't about academic exercises – public safety was, and still is, about people. And not just the people on our police and fire forces, but also within the community. Working hand in hand together, Alex knew we could restore a sense of safety to our streets.

Alex knew that public safety on all levels depended on the ability of the women and men, our brothers and sisters who are all part of the city family, to perform their jobs to the best of their abilities, and for the community to support them in these roles. Alex truly recognized the motto that guides the Los Angeles Police Protective League: "Protecting those who protect others." Without individuals leading our city that cared and understood the demands placed on our public safety personnel and worked to provide for their needs, our police officers and firefighters would be without the sense of protection they bring to the millions of residents of our city.

Alex knows this – he knew it as a candidate.

He knew it as a Councilman from the



7th District.

He knew it as City Council President.

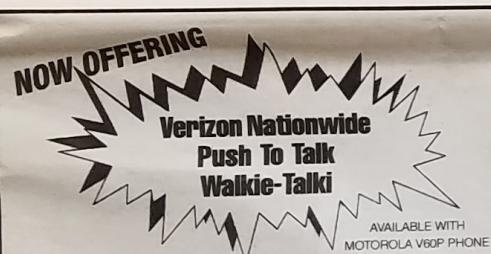
He knew it as Acting Mayor during the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

And he knows it to this day.

We held the event in September to show our solidarity with Council President Padilla. We recognized him for how far he has come, and how far he

will go. As the third-youngest person ever elected to city office, we know he has a long career ahead of him, and we look forward to standing with him as he works on behalf of the men and women – both in uniform and the many other residents of our city – to help Los Angeles.

continued on page 12



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# LET'S ROLL

Paul Weber

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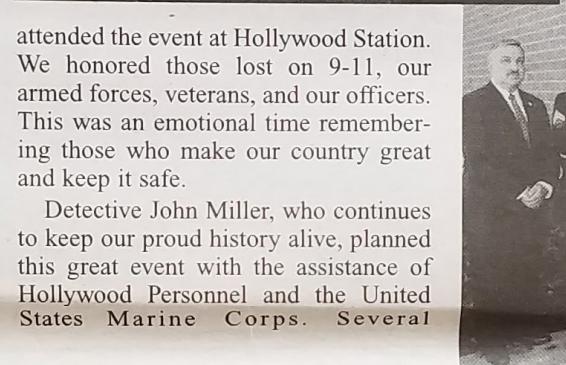
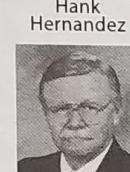
This past week I had another member call in frustration over two legal issues and failure of their personal pre-paid legal plans to assist them. I assisted him in getting the help he needed through the League's Legal Claims Unit.

**Tim Sands**, League Legal Chair, **Hank Hernandez**, League General Counsel, and **Gary Ingemunson**, League Independent Counsel, have developed one of the best (if not the best) legal plans offered by a police union in the nation. If you are a member of the enhanced legal plan it provides great additional benefits for only \$10.00 a payday. Join today! If you are a spouse/ domestic partner of an officer or care about them, encourage them to join. For assistance or to join call:

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E-mail: [lapp14u@lappl.org](mailto:lapp14u@lappl.org)

## 9-11 Remembered:

The second anniversary was remembered in many ways all around the world. Director Peter Repovich and I



attended the event at Hollywood Station. We honored those lost on 9-11, our armed forces, veterans, and our officers. This was an emotional time remembering those who make our country great and keep it safe.

Detective John Miller, who continues to keep our proud history alive, planned this great event with the assistance of Hollywood Personnel and the United States Marine Corps. Several



to make this viable!

We are also looking for concerned citizens to sign up for our "community members newsletter" (coming soon) at our web site **LAPD.COM** or **LAPD.NET**. Again we need more people to sign up to make this viable!

**Call our LAPPL Message Line (20/20): (213) 368-7277!** Get the latest critical information from the League that affects you and your family. If you are aware of information that would benefit the membership let us know. E-mail us at [paulweber@lappl.org](mailto:paulweber@lappl.org) or [Leaguemail@lappl.org](mailto:Leaguemail@lappl.org).

Your feedback is critical to our success!

## Managed Health Network (MHN):

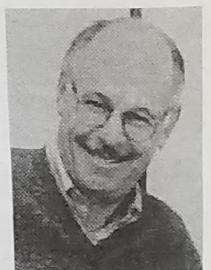
MHN is the program the League obtained for its members to help you and your families with life's difficulties. MHN helps the League succeed by helping their members and the member's family. MHN comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP), including a substance abuse program and managed behavioral health care services help members

manage their work, life and emotional health challenges.

**The program is not an arm of the Department and is strictly confidential.** As a League negotiated benefit there is no cost to you and your family within plan limits. Contact them at (877) MHN - LAPL.

## Mike Palmertree MHN Legend:

Twenty-five years ago Mike Palmertree joined MHN as a clinical coordinator. Mike was instrumental in helping the League obtain our Employee Assistance Program. He has worked tirelessly over the years to improve our program through MHN.



When you look up gentlemen in the dictionary you will find his photo. He genuinely cares about you and your families. Mike often assisted us in resolving issues and improving service to our members, becoming an advocate for us within MHN.

He retired from MHN on September 13, 2003, and went into private practice helping officers and their families in San Francisco. We wish him and his wife the best in all their future endeavors.

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- Tonometry (Glaucoma screening)
- Audiometry (Hearing test)
- Pulmonary function testing
- Strength testing
- Flexibility testing
- Exercise Prescription
- Complete written evaluation with MD recommendations

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months ago John planned the event honoring the Hollywood officers killed in the Onion Field, Ian Campbell and Karl Hettinger.

### LaLey Picnic:

Ted Hunt, Peter Repovich, Cliff Ruff and I attended the LaLey (Latin American Law Enforcement Association) picnic at the Police Academy. LaLey's Board of Directors and members hard work paid off. The event was a great opportunity to spend some time together and enjoy the beautiful weather.

### Blue Line Up-Date:

The Blue Line Committee met on October 7, to discuss proposed changes to the *Blue Line*. I hope in future articles to outline our goals and accomplishments in improving our paper.

Please keep your ideas coming in! Call me at 213-251-4554 or e-mail me at [paulweber@lappl.org](mailto:paulweber@lappl.org) or to [blue-line@lappl.org](mailto:blue-line@lappl.org).

### LAPPL Communications: Web Site / 20/20 message line

We continue to make strides (however small) to improve our communication efforts with our members. Please visit our Web site and take a look around. If you are a member please log into the Members Only section and sign up for our "members only newsletter" (coming soon). We need more people to sign up

Call the LAPPL TELEPHONE MESSAGE LINE  
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## A Message From Chief Bratton

by Chief William Bratton

Imagine, initiating a traffic stop for a speeding driver who is weaving in and out of traffic on one of the wide avenues in the San Fernando Valley. The circumstances of the stop quickly change when officers learn the driver has a felony warrant for assault with a deadly weapon and has eluded police for several months. The possibility of the suspect taking off or deciding he's not going to jail is very real. You call for back up, but it could take several minutes to arrive. So you and your partner rely on your skills, training and tactics to control the situation and take the suspect into custody.

Although this is a fictional stop, it reflects the "dangerous realities" that we face each and every day as Los Angeles police officers.

I mentioned in the September issue of the *Thin Blue Line*, that our comprehensive five-year plan of action would be unveiled by the end of October. Now that it's complete, I want to share with you the purposes of the plan and issues and challenges we faced as the plan was being developed. First, the plan will help the Department accomplish my stated goals of reducing the incidence and the fear of crime, fully implementing the Consent

Decree, and creating a world-class counter-terrorism bureau that will serve as a model for police organizations worldwide.

I like to refer to these three goals as the Department's "internal realities." I see them as measurable, necessary and, most importantly, attainable. I see these "internal realities" as the only way of making Mayor Hahn's vision to make Los Angeles the safest big city in the country, a reality.

Secondly, the plan of action will also describe candidly "external realities" that Los Angeles police officers must deal with. The "reality" that we are the most understaffed major metropolitan police organization in the country. East coast and mid-west cities like New York, Chicago and Boston all have more cops per capita. Some have almost twice as many officers per capita as we do. Add to that the staggering amount of real estate that we cover, close to 500 square miles, bound together by a system of clogged freeways that on their best days yield top speeds well below their intended design, and you can begin to appreciate just how good of a job that you do, considering how little you have to work with.

Another "external reality," the intensity and fear of crime in this City

oftentimes seems to outweigh that of many other large cities in this country. Although we have significantly reduced the number of homicides this year and overall violent crime, remember, a year ago we were the murder capital of the nation. In just my first year as your Chief, I've talked with numerous cops who have been involved in gun battles or been shot at in Los Angeles. The level of unprovoked violence against police officers seems to me to be much more of a problem here than at any other police department where I've worked or with which I am familiar. I have come to believe but for the intense focus that you and the Department place on officer safety related security, training coordination and tactics, the rate of injury from those assaults would be much higher.

I have come to understand that what sets us apart from other law enforcement agencies in a positive way is our emphasis on officer safety and tactics. As an understaffed organization and through its evolution, the LAPD has been forced to rely on rapid mobilization and tactics "to get the job done." In the 1960's and 1970's, these tools helped to create the image of the LAPD as the worldwide leader in law enforcement. Now, some thirty years later, the focus has not changed. We still rely on tactics and other methods used when our population was half of what it is today, before September 11th and before gang culture and gang crime were able to create so much fear in our neighborhoods. Although you, the cops and detectives out on the streets still work hard to "get the job done," the resources we give you clearly have not kept up with the demand. The people of this City are by and

large receiving the best policing for the price they have been willing to pay. But clearly, as we enter the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, a continuing case must be made for more resources and most importantly, more police officers and civilian support staff.

Many people believe that the disconnect between the LAPD and the people of Los Angeles is the result of an insular Department, closed off to public influences. While that may be true to some extent, another "external reality" is that our uniformed officers have been sent out to "get the job done" oftentimes without the proper tools, training, development and most importantly, staffing. Because of your dedication to your profession, "getting the job done" has been your priority. However, cutting corners in the absence of adequate funding, has led to the wearing down of established policies, has tarnished our outstanding reputation, and has eroded the trust of the people we have sworn to protect and to serve. The lack of personnel causes erosion in everything we do, and in particular, finding time for all of our officers to build critical bridges of trust and confidence in many of our troubled neighborhoods.

The public and the politicians have as much responsibility for the LAPD and its ability to perform constantly, compassionately and constitutionally as do the command staff, officers and civilian employees that work here. I know that you, the outstanding men and women of this Department, sworn and civilian, are capable of doing more with less, but I'm also aware that you cannot do everything. That is why this five-year plan of action is so

continued on page 12

  
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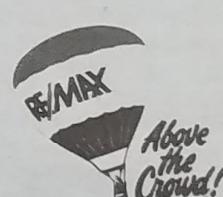
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## Message from the Chief

continued from page 11

important. It outlines our responsibilities and our goals within the next half-decade, but it also factors in the responsibilities of all players involved in making Los Angeles the safest big city in the nation. Working with your unions, Mayor Hahn and the communities that are showing an increasing willingness

to partner with us, my commitment to you is to use all of my skills, power, assets and energy to fight for the tools and additional resources that this Department so desperately needs, to "get the job done" the right way. You are the best and have clearly shown your ability and commitment to do more, but we owe it to you to fight as hard as we can for more cops, for your safety and that of the public. ♦

## Regovich continued from page 9

les grow and improve.

We share Council President Padilla's values, his beliefs and his passion for making this city better. His unwavering dedication to Los Angeles shows through in everything he does — from creating opportunities for youth to deter them from a life of crime, to providing the much-needed city services in support of local businesses and residents, to making the tough decisions that are characteristic of a true leader. As a native of Los Angeles, Council President Padilla shows a caring spirit that comes from being born and raised in the city that he now helps to lead.

At the reception, Council President Padilla told the touching story of how, when he was a little boy growing up in the San Fernando Valley, the block he lived on was not safe. As he tried to

sleep at night, gunshots kept him awake and children were not allowed to play in their front yards. But, working together, his parents and their neighbors joined together with the police officers who worked in their neighborhood to take back the streets from the criminals and return it to the hard-working homeowners who lived there. The neighborhood of his youth is now safe to play and live in, and he is proud that now, with the police officers and community working together, this is possible.

I am truly proud to have gotten to know Alex well over the years, and I hope everyone has the same opportunity to get to know him as well, or even better. The Police Protective League thanks Council President Padilla for his commitment to law enforcement and public safety, and looks forward to continuing to work together in the interest of protecting the residents of our city. ♦

Hunt continued from page 5

## So What Has Changed?

We changed the way we did business by professionalizing and running the League as a business. It was accomplished by team work — by focusing on "WHAT IS IMPORTANT." Instead of allowing people to do nothing and get away with just whining and taking unprofessional cheap shots, we set goals and demanded results.

It was a step-by-step process. 1.) Like any successful business, we clearly defined our mission: *improve our salaries, benefits, pensions, legal protection and professionalism.* 2.) We focused our resources (*time and effort*) directly on achieving the mission. 3.) We set **MEASURABLE GOALS THAT MATTER** and REACHED OUR GOALS.

## REPORT CARD

1. Negotiated contracts increasing pay nearly 45% since 1996
2. Restored CWS
3. Discipline reform
4. Held management accountable
5. Helped secure new LAPD leadership
6. Dramatically improved pensions
7. Restored Emergency Response Vehicles
8. Obtained out of county garaging
9. Developed the best legal plan
10. Professionalism through seminars, College Fair, MHN
11. Settled FLSA — \$\$\$ in everyone's pocket

12. Added substantial workers' comp benefits, specifically — Injury is **PRESUMED** to be IOD if you develop:
  - Cancer;
  - Low back injury (uniform assignment for five years or more);
  - If you contract any of the below listed diseases within five years after retirement, it is considered IOD: hepatitis; blood-borne infectious disease; heart disease; or an illness based on exposure to a biochemical agent.

**These new benefits protect your family particularly in these dangerous times of potential terrorist acts**

Things have changed at the League over the years and now things are changing at LAPD. Our beloved Department is on the road to recovery. I encourage anyone reading this, if you left LAPD for greener pastures, or you're a retiree thinking about recommending the job to a friend or relative, or perhaps you're recovering from a long-term injury — LAPD is restoring the luster to the badge and pride in the organization. It's time to come home.

Thank you for your continued support. God bless America and God bless the members of LAPD and the people we are sworn to serve. ♦

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*7<sup>th</sup> Annual Alan J. Garcia*



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Letters must be limited to 350 words or less. Letters over the limit will be returned to the writer for editing. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Dear Editor:

As the father of a CHLA cancer patient/survivor and active LAPD, I just want to thank you for running the info about the need for blood there. My son is in remission right now, but needed several transfusions during the time he was going through chemo. It's nice to know that people other than patients' families are thinking of those amazing kids who really need our help.

Greg Doyle  
Valley Communications

(Editor's Note: Children's Hospital and American Red Cross still report shortages. Please save a life — donate blood.)

Dear Editor:

Just wanted to extend my congratulations to Stu Weinreb on his recent retirement. Stu was a good friend and occasional partner when I was last assigned to CTD. He made the place a more pleasant place to work. I wish him all the best in the future.

Art Valles, #14675  
LAPD Retired

Paul Weber:

I'm concerned about the message you send to the public and our officers. Clearly, you fail to understand the level of police abuse in this nation and city. If you are not aware of the many abuses to the public by the police, you have been living in isolation. I suggest you retract your article and concentrate your efforts on things to improve the situation and prevent police abuse.

The percentage of the budget that is spent on law enforcement is a clear message that the public appreciate its police officers.

Finally, if there was no evidence of police abuse "Rampart," the public would have nothing to investigate or complain about.

Julias Stewart  
Sergeant, LAPD  
Professional Standards

(Editor's Note: Paul Weber's article never said that serious misconduct did not occur. The point he tried to make to his readers was twofold — beware of these groups (their agendas) and that their efforts would have a greater positive result if they concentrated on helping the community and the police fight crime.)

Subject: Transitions

Dear Paul:

I just wanted to let you know how much I have valued my affiliation with the LAPPL. Getting the program in

place those many years ago and then watching it grow and be used by so many officers has been a highlight. Friday, Sept. 12 is my last day in the office. After a little vacation with Liane, I will return to begin my private practice in San Francisco. Not surprisingly, I will be specializing in working with public safety personnel. MHN is being really supportive of this transition and is adding me to the clinical network.

Please express my very best wishes to the directors.

Regards,  
Michael Palmertree  
Managed Health Network

Dear Directors:

The other day while at work standing by to book some property, I realized something. All we do is wait! The police officer, especially the patrol officer, in this department waits for everybody. When we have an arrest, we have to wait for the ambulance if there are injuries, and they sure don't stay and wait for us. Upon booking we have to wait for the doctor to see the arrestee for any little ailment and then if the dispensary is too worried about some week old injury the arrestee sustained on their own, we have to take them to a contract hospital where we wait, without any consideration or head of the line privileges. Upon returning to the jail, we have to wait for the doctor again to clear the arrestee for booking, then we have to wait for a jailer to book our prisoner. Then if there is evidence, we have to wait for the property officer to book our property, and, of course, we have to wait for records so we can get a D.R. number. No wonder our response time is up!

Patrol is the "report card" of the department. We are what the city and community use to gauge the LAPD's successes and failures. Why is it then patrol receives so little help from all these so called "support functions." This department is clamoring to solve the ever increasing "response time" concerns so why is there no "Patrol Bureau" or even a "Patrol Committee" that oversees and approves policies and procedures that adversely affect patrol?

This department does not think out of the box. In fact, I don't know what information the brass is giving the chief. In an article of the current issue of *Police Beat*, the Chief believes it takes us an average of seven minutes to respond to code 3 calls. What? If he is confused over one of our basic patrol ideas of 7/40, how effective is he to make "creative and innovative" changes in the department that cannot even brief him

on basic matters?

The LAPD is operating inside a time warp. The department's solution to what ails it is hire more officers. But have you ever thought of what would happen if we hired 1,000 officers? Where would we get the extra cars, shotguns, ammo, etc.? We would be tripping over each other in the already crowded locker rooms and there would be a longer wait to book prisoners. Many criminologists believe before you hire officers you need a strong infrastructure by working backwards, i.e., first court rooms, then jails, then officers. This department for the time being needs to work backwards by hiring more "civilian support" and take over many of the "light duty" functions the average patrol officer performs on a daily basis, so we can get back out in the field faster and reduce "response times" and get back to policing the streets of Los Angeles.

Todd Holmberg, #33369

Re: Officer Needs Help  
Dear Blue Line Readers,

Sgt. Shannon Yada is an 18-year veteran with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Dept. He was diagnosed with melanoma earlier last year and is currently engaged in a battle for his life. As a result, Shannon was forced to take a medical retirement last month which

resulted in his salary being cut in half. Also, he must now supplement his medical insurance payments to the tune of \$651.00 per month. Needless to say, this is a severe financial hardship for him and his wife Donna.

I am running the Big Sur Half Marathon on Nov. 16 as a fundraising event for Shannon. Please consider sponsoring me in this race. Your tax deductible donation can be sent to me payable to the IPOF (Injured Police Officers Fund). Please help in any way you can in any amount. Even small donations collectively add up to big donations. And please pray for a miracle.

Also, take care to examine yourself and your loved ones for any unusual moles or changes in existing ones. Shannon was a SWAT officer, the epitome of health and fitness, when a seemingly insignificant mole on his back ended up bringing him to his knees at the ripe old age of 41. For further information re melanoma, please check [www.mpi.org](http://www.mpi.org). Never assume "Oh, it's probably nothing." Melanoma can strike anyone.

Thank you,  
Lynda Putz #22963  
Retired  
13584 Meadow Crest Dr.  
Chino Hills, CA 91709  
(909)590-9032



## END OF WATCH

NAME: Raymond E. Sifling #13745

★ ★ ★

RANK: Police Officer III+1

NAME: Richard L. Hill #3470

ASSIGNED TO: Metro

RANK: Sergeant

BORN: April 10, 1940

ASSIGNED TO: Narcotics

APPOINTED: December 31, 1967

BORN: December 24, 1919

RETIRED: March 16, 1996

APPOINTED: February 6, 1946

DIED: July 22, 2003

RETIRED: February 5, 1966

★ ★ ★

NAME: Siegfried Schian #12480

★ ★ ★

RANK: Detective II

NAME: Leo Allomong #4556

ASSIGNED TO: Narcotics

RANK: Investigator III

BORN: July 29, 1938

ASSIGNED TO: University

APPOINTED: August 2, 1965

BORN: November 17, 1925

RETIRED: August 26, 1990

APPOINTED: June 16, 1947

DIED: August 12, 2003

RETIRED: March 1, 1965

★ ★ ★

NAME: Edmond J. Gillespie, Jr. #5105

NAME: John C. Hanks #6890

RANK: Policeman

RANK: Lieutenant II

ASSIGNED TO: R&I

ASSIGNED TO: Personnel Division

BORN: April 6, 1925

BORN: October 10, 1928

APPOINTED: November 6, 1947

APPOINTED: April 17, 1952

RETIRED: August 24, 1968

RETIRED: July 14, 1973

DIED: September 5, 2003

DIED: September 24, 2003

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# POLITICAL FRONTLINE



## LAPPL LEGISLATIVE CORNER

by Timothy H. B. Yaryan - LAPPL Legislative Counsel and Advocate

It was nearly 4 a.m. before the Assembly finally adjourned on Saturday, September 13, ending an extremely acrimonious legislative session. Underlying the acrimony was "election year politics" in what is normally a non-election year. But 2003 has not been a normal year by any stretch of the imagination.

The year began with newly elected Governor Gray Davis announcing a budget deficit of historic proportions, a deficit which was to grow to roughly \$38 billion dollars (about 40% of the state budget) by June, 2003. We had the usual budget wrangling which, again, produced a "late" budget. But the capper was the successful Recall drive which has turned California politics upside down. Whereas, before the Recall, cost and budget considerations dominated capitol politics, once the Recall qualified, every bill was viewed with an eye to the Recall and how it would affect the Governor or the leading candidates.

It now looks like the October 7 Election will go forward after the eleven member Ninth Circuit Panel stepped in to overrule the decision of the Circuit's three judge panel and, by the time you read this, the drama will have unfolded and political history will have been made.

The League's primary legislative priority in 2003, as it will be for the next several years, was the State Budget. After the Governor's Budget was announced in January, the adverse fiscal impact to local governments was enormous, as they faced losing local VLF funding and other

key public safety funding. The adverse impact to public safety and law enforcement was potentially staggering, and could have resulted in layoffs to as many as 15% to 20% of our members. As you know, that didn't happen as we partnered with other unions and sheriffs and county management to avert the fiscal train wreck. However, the "band aid" budget that was passed this year is fragile. The economy is still uncertain, and we will again have to swim in perilous budget waters in 2004.

Our major victory was keeping the VLF funding for local government. The Vehicle License Fees pay for about \$4.2 billion in local programs and public safety gets about 2/3 of that funding. I know the "car tax" isn't very popular, but it pays your salaries! We were also able to keep the COPS program funded, although we took a 12% cut in this program. The League's efforts in Sacramento to assisting the City secure VLF and other important dollars from the state helped pay off in the form of a new contract about which League members should feel very proud! Excellent leadership combined with an effective team at City Hall and in Sacramento has yielded a good result for you, especially considering that other law enforcement unions have yet to secure a contract. There is a heck of a lot of behind the scenes work, that often goes into the late night, that helps make this possible and you should express your appreciation to your Board of Directors for their efforts.

One of the best successes in 2003 was enactment of **SB 221** (Romero, D, Los Angeles). Many of you "old timers" will recall the ongoing fight rank-and-file unions have had with management over the status of your POST certificate. Management has long wanted to make

your POST certificate a "license," which would be revocable for reasons of "moral turpitude." For peace officers, if they can "revoke" your POST certificate, they can permanently terminate your career. This issue was one of the reasons LAPPL has, over the years, lobbied so hard to increase rank-and-file representation of the POST Commission and so closely monitored POST's activities.

**SB 221** represented several years of difficult negotiations between management and labor and, in the end, the bill was supported by all management groups, (except the California State Sheriffs' Association who went "neutral"), all major rank-and-file groups, and the POST Commission. *The bill expressly prohibits POST from adopting regulations allowing them discretionary authority to revoke your POST certificate, or to otherwise treat your POST certificate as a "revocable" license.* Of course, you can still have your certificate cancelled if you are convicted of a felony as current law provides.

**SB 221** is a landmark bill for two reasons. It eliminates establishment of a "two layered" management system – one at headquarters and one in Sacramento, and it keeps POST a training agency and not a regulatory agency. Passage of this bill also demonstrates that there is an increasing attitude of cooperation between management and labor on these peace officer rights issues. While we still have a ways to go, we have made significant progress in the past twelve years, and Chief Bratton and Chief Rick Ter Borch (President of Cal Chiefs) are to be commended for their willingness to work out these tough problems and reach a fair settlement. This new era of cooperation with management has paid off in this year's budget success and in

other ways as well.

**SB 221** would not have happened, by the way, without the League's Legislative Chair, Ted Hunt. Ted was instrumental in helping get management and POST on board and in clearing the way for this bill.

The Wesson bills on "police reform," which the League has actively opposed, stalled on the Senate Floor. We have lobbied both houses very hard, and Speaker Wesson decided it was best to put them on the Senate's inactive file. We'll see what the New Year brings, but these bills have managed to estrange previously friendly rank-and-file groups from the current Assembly leadership, particularly because Speaker Wesson has been so unwilling to work with rank and file after he originally promised us that "we will work with you to resolve our differences." Wesson's leadership has come under fire lately, so it's not just rank-and-file law enforcement that has developed problems with Mr. Speaker, and he will step down from his post in March.

Finally, the League actively supported the extension of "Megan's Law," which identifies sexual predators in your community. **AB 1313** (Parra, D., Dinuba) extended the "sunset" on Megan's Law until 2007. Unfortunately, the Assembly failed to get the bill passed during its regular schedule and Speaker Wesson had to call them back to get the job done. The bill passed easily 78-0, and it's on its way to the Governor who is expected to sign the measure with prompt dispatch. Next column, I will review the final action taken on all our bills of interest and talk about how next session is shaping up.

Until next time, stay safe!

## LOS ANGELES POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE 2003-2004 STATE LEGISLATIVE "HOT LIST" SEMI FINAL REPORT

### 2003 – 2004 STATE BUDGET

ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
COPS Funding	Would reauthorize \$100 million state funding for "Cops on the Street"*	Approved
COPS Tech Grants	Would authorize \$18 million state funding for purchases of police equipment and technology.*	Defeated
VLF Funding	Would eliminate \$4.2 billion in VLF reimbursements to cities and counties.**	Defeated
POBR	Would suspend reimbursements for POBR**	Defeated

\*These budget appropriations were actively supported by the League.  
\*\* Actively opposed by the League.

### ASSEMBLY BILLS

BILL	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION
AB 112	Goldberg	Would limit application of "Three Strikes."
AB 140	Levine	Increases penalties for evading "police pursuits."
AB 187	Runner & Garcia	Protects members of Armed Forces from discrimination.
AB 319	Frommer	Prohibits juveniles convicted of serious crime from owning or possessing firearms.
AB 359	Koretz	Requires written notification and reason therefore, to officers denied off duty employment.
AB 834	La Suer	Requires complaints shown to be unfounded, exonerated, or frivolous be removed from department's files.
AB 933	Reyes	Includes stepchild for special death benefits allowed for children of officers killed in line of duty.
AB 960	La Suer	Establishes public safety officer - peer support privilege.
AB 968	Correa	Creates Workers' Compensation bio-terrorism coverage.
AB 992	Ridley Thomas	Increases sales tax on sale of ammunition.
AB 1077	Wesson	Expands ways for filing complaints against law enforcement officers.
AB 1081	Maddox	Allows officers their own access to files when frivolous law suits are filed against them.
AB 1119	Wesson	Establishes "Early Warning System" for law enforcement officers.
AB 1156	Nunez	Provides employees of local public agencies and employee organizations may challenge a rule of a public agency as a violation of Meyers-Millias Brown Act.

LAPPL POSITION	STATUS BILL
Active Oppose	Assembly Inactive File
Active Support	Assembly Appropriations
Active Support	<b>Signed into Law</b> Ch. 138, Stats 2003
Active Support	Gov's Desk
Sponsored by LAPPL	<b>Signed into Law</b> Ch 104, Stats 2003
Sponsored by LAPPL	Assembly Public Safety
Active Support	Gov's Desk
Sponsored by LAPPL	Senate Judiciary
Sponsored by LAPPL	Assembly Concurrence
Active Oppose	Assembly Inactive File
Active Oppose	Sen. Inactive File
Active Support	Senate Public Safety
Active Oppose	Sen. Inactive File
Active Support	<b>Signed into Law</b> Ch 215, Stats 2003

AB 1198	Dutton	Keeps POST information re: personnel records confidentiality.	Active Support	Senate Public Safety
AB 1313	Parra	Extends "Megan's Law."	Active Support	Assembly Concurrence
AB 1324	Steinberg	Creates a worker's comp presumption for dependents of peace officers who contact a blood-borne infectious disease.	Active Support	Conference Committee
AB 1432	Firebaugh	Eliminates statutory double jeopardy concerning conviction by foreign government.	Active Support	Assembly Appropriations

## SENATE BILLS

BILL	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION	LAPPL POSITION	STATUS BILL
SB 188	Cedillo	Equalizes membership of labor and management at POST.	Sponsored by LAPPL	Senate Public Safety
SB 221	Romero	Prohibits POST from adopting regulations to make POST Certificate a revocable license.	Sponsored by LAPPL	<b>Signed into Law</b> <b>Ch. 297, Stats 2003</b>
SB 365	Johnson	Revises circumstances that establish workers' comp employer liability.	Active Oppose	Senate Labor & Indust. Relations
SB 366	Johnson	Changes proof requirements in cases of psychiatric injury under workers' comp.	Active Oppose	Senate Labor & Indust. Relations
SB 440	Burton	Re enacts binding arbitration for peace officers with changes to address Riverside case.	Active Support	Gov's Desk
SB 752	Alpert	Allows law enforcement to require submittal of fingerprints for database.	Amended (to remove opposition)	Gov's Desk
SBX 15	Senate Budget Committee	Time credits awarded to prisoners performing full-time education qualifying assignments.	Active Oppose	<b>VETOED</b>
SCA 1	Burton & Mc Pherson	Amends the California Constitution relating to access of public information.	Active Oppose	Assembly Floor

## Workers' Comp Reform Summary

by Tim Yaryan  
League Legislative Counsel  
and Advocate

The workers' compensation conference committee wrapped up their work and passed two bills, AB 227 (Vargas, Burton and Nunez) and SB 228 (Alarcon, Burton), which contain reforms that will reduce system costs by an estimated \$5 billion to \$6 billion annually. The legislature has passed these measures and the Governor has promised to sign the legislation when it hits his desk. This is the summary of the major provisions of the Workers' Comp Reform package.

California workers' compensation costs to employers are the highest in the nation, yet the benefits to injured workers are in the bottom 40 percent of all states. In 1995 the system cost all employers \$9 billion. This year it will *cost more than \$29 billion*. That's equivalent to a \$20 billion tax increase, according to Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi, who pointed out in the conference committee that there are now fewer injured workers who don't go back to work any faster. "The legislation proposed today will stop the absurd increases that employers have seen in the last year and produce savings that will continue on an annual basis," Garamendi said. "The individual impact of these changes will vary per employer, but I am confident that we can bring immediate relief for many."

cost drivers and a central cause of escalating workers' compensation premiums in the state. While the number of claims have continued to decline in recent years, medical costs have continued to spiral out of control. From 1997 to 2002, medical costs per claim increased by 125%, rising from \$13,845 to \$31,120 per claim. By comparison, national medical inflation grew by 22% and average indemnity benefits per claim by 32% over the same period. This medical cost inflation has a strong negative impact on insurance companies' reserves and surplus and consequently the overall financial health of insurance companies.

**Solution:** SB 228 creates a new official medical fee schedule for outpatient surgical centers, indexing it to 120 percent of Medicare. It will provide a payment standard, allow for consistent and timely updates to the fee schedules and lead to additional cost savings through lower administrative costs on implementing and updating the schedules.

**Utilization Review:** Numerous interstate comparisons and California-specific studies have demonstrated that overutilization of medical treatment is a serious problem within California's workers' compensation system. While California's price per medical service is comparable to other states, California far exceeds other states in both the number of services per visit and visits per claim. Overutilization of medical services is a major cost driver that does not

**Generic Drugs:** Use of brand name drugs and high dispensing fees in the workers' compensation system places excessive costs in the system.

**Solution:** SB 228 requires dispensation of generic drugs, unless a brand name has been specifically prescribed. This would close a loophole in last year's generic-drug legislation (part of AB 749 – enacted in 2002) by extending the generic drug dispensing requirement currently imposed on pharmacies to hospitals, clinics and physicians when filing workers' compensation prescriptions.

**Treating Physician Presumption:** AB 749, as enacted in 2002, repealed the presumption of correctness of the treating physician only for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2003.

**Solution:** SB 228 repeals the treating physician's presumption for all injuries including those that occurred before January 1, 2003, except in cases where the employee has "pre-designated" his or her personal physician. The result would be a savings of approximately \$2 billion to reserves, thus improving the financial health of the insurance industry. This would encourage more insurers to write workers' compensation insurance, create a more competitive market, and put downward pressure on rates. The savings affects accident years prior to 2003.

**Overuse of Chiropractic and Physical Therapy Treatments:** State law currently caps the amount of money it pays for each visit to a chiropractor. However, there are no limits on the number of visits—so that workers (and chiropractors) receive a blank check. Nationally, the average number of chiropractor visits per workers' comp claim is 15, but in California it is 34.

**Solution:** SB 228 limits on chiropractic and physical therapy treatments to no more than 24 for the life of the claim. This limitation is to be implemented on or after January 1, 2003, and provides that insurers may authorize supplemental treatments in writing.

**Vocational Rehabilitation:** California's system of vocational rehabilitation now costs more than a half billion dollars per year with unproven results. Studies show that the state's injured workers tend to miss more time from the job than employees in most other states, and critics say many workers waste time and money retraining for jobs they will never perform.

**Solution:** AB 227 repeals the existing vocational rehabilitation statute and replaces it with a new supplemental job displacement benefit for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2004.

**Fraud:** There are broad perceptions that California's workers' compensation system is one where abuse and fraud are widespread and serve as a cost driver in the system. The high premiums, low benefits, and overall inequity of the current workers' compensation system con-

tribute to an environment that is highly vulnerable to fraud. Workers' compensation fraud ranges from abusive and fraudulent provider billing practices (up-coding, unbundling, prescription billing, durable equipment, and services not rendered) and medical-legal mills to applicant and insider fraud. Numerous factors exacerbate and perpetuate workers' compensation fraud, including personal and business economic hardship, public acceptance of insurance fraud, and inadequate resources (manpower and funding) to investigate insurance fraud cases. Some insurance companies have also been derelict in their responsibility to fight fraud. The lack of uniform methodology and standards for assessing and reporting suspected fraud is a contributing factor.

**Solution:** AB 227 increases the maximum fine for workers' compensation fraud from \$50,000 to \$150,000. SB 228 requires the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation to adopt medical billing and provide fraud referral protocols.

**Carve Out:** Currently, the only option most injured workers have, if they do not receive the prompt and appropriate medical treatment and benefits they are entitled to, is to pursue their grievance through the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board (WCAB). Not only does this lead to unnecessary delay in benefit delivery, but it oftentimes leads to pointless and costly litigation.

**Solution:** SB 228 repeals the carve-out under current law for the aerospace and timber industry and establishes a new carve-out program, in any industry, except construction. Only the union may initiate the process of petitioning the Administrative Director (AD). The AD will review and issue a letter allowing a one-year window for negotiations. The parties may request a one-year extension. SB 228 also provides that carve-out agreements cannot preclude an employee from right to counsel.

**Fostering Competition for Best Rates:** Since 2000, at least 18 private insurance companies have stopped writing new workers' compensation policies in California, and the State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF) has picked up most of the slack. SCIF now writes more than 54% of the policies sold in California and its surplus will soon be exhausted.

**Solution:** AB 227 requires the Insurance Commissioner, on or before January 1, 2004, to establish and maintain on the Department of Insurance's Web site an online rate comparison guide showing workers' compensation insurance rates for the 50 insurance companies writing the highest volume of business in this line during the two proceeding years.

This is an extremely complicated package of reforms to the workers' compensation system, and I hope this summary is helpful.

### Summary of Estimated Savings (in millions) for Implementation of AB 227 and SB 228

Item	One-time	Ongoing	To Ongoing
Official Medical Fee Schedule	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Outpatient Fee Schedule	\$3,200.0	\$932.0	\$930.0
Pharmaceutical Fee Schedule	—	\$407.4	\$407.4
Repeal Treating Physician Presumption	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Repeal Voc Rehab	—	\$1,200.0	\$1,200.0
Treatment Protocols	—	\$1,000.0	\$1,700.0
Second Opinion Spinal Surgeries	—	\$141.2	\$141.2
Carve-Outs	—	\$100.0	\$100.0
Caps on Chiropractic Treatments	—	\$684.0	\$684.0
Caps on Physical Therapy Treatments	—	\$427.4	\$427.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,500.0</b>	<b>\$4,892.0</b>	<b>\$5,590.0</b>

necessarily aid injured workers, extends injury claims, and wastes medical treatment resources.

**Solution:** SB 228 mandates the adoption of interim utilization guidelines governing medical treatments and attaches a presumption of correctness to the utilization guidelines. SB 228 also mandates a study of utilization guidelines by the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation and mandates the adoption of those guidelines. The presumption of correction is attached to the utilization guidelines.

### Some of the Major Reforms in the Legislation Include:

**Medical Fee Schedule:** The current workers' compensation medical payment system is unnecessarily complex, costly, difficult to administer, and often outdated. Key components of the workers' compensation medical system—specifically outpatient surgery centers—are still unregulated and are placing extreme cost burdens on the entire system. Uncontrolled and unpredictable inflation of workers' compensation medical costs is one of the system's primary

# COMMENDABLE COPPER CAPERS

Sergeant Michael Ventura, #30741, Hollywood Division  
 Officer H. Lee, #35314, Pacific Division  
 Officer A. Rodriguez, #35136, Pacific Division  
 Officer B. Phillips, #35617, Rampart Division  
 Officer S. Kim, #32464, Rampart Division  
 Officer S. Shah, #36512, Hollywood Division  
 Officer J. Collyer, #27575, Hollywood Division  
 Officer J. Nichols, #34726, West L.A. Division  
 Officer E. Trujillo, #31264, West L.A. Division  
 Officer C. Zine, #36028, Hollywood Division  
 Officer J. Gonzalez, #35970, Hollywood Division

## Commendation

On June 28, 2003, President Musharraf of Pakistan, his family and entourage were visiting Los Angeles and made an unscheduled stop at Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Anti-Terrorist Division (ATD) detectives requested support from Hollywood Division to secure the area for the impending arrival. With very short notice, Sgt. Michael Ventura, #30742, not only supplied the additional units for crowd control and security but also took the initiative to employ additional security measures. Patrol units were called in from West L.A. Pacific, and Rampart Divisions. The area was quickly searched, ingress and egress routes were identified and secured.

The actions of Sgt. Ventura and the officers at the scene must not be taken lightly due to the fact that the threat level for President Musharraf is very high and there was a large amount of Saturday afternoon vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the area. The efforts of Sgt. Ventura and all of the patrol units who assisted in this event are responsible for its positive outcome.

President Musharraf's security detail and the United States Secret Service commented how professional, courteous and helpful the officers were. The efforts of all involved personnel are to be commended. The hard work and dedication of all involved officers is sincerely appreciated.

Gary S. Williams, Capt., Commanding Officer, Anti-Terrorist Division

★ ★ ★

P.O. III Linda Travis, 23799, Metropolitan Division  
 P.O. III Michael Goosby, 26964, Metropolitan Division  
 P.O. III James McConnell, 26321, Metropolitan Division  
 P.O. II Jeffery Booker, 34385, 77th Street  
 P.O. II Matthew DeLao, 34449, Hollywood  
 P.O. II+VI Kris Owen, 24808, Air Support Division

P.O. II+II Debra Kickbush, 27221, Air Support Division  
 P.O. III Felipe Tamez, 31330, Hollywood  
 P.O. I Kevin Giberson, 36311, Training Recruit  
 P.O. III Daniel Pesqueira, 26906, Hollywood  
 P.O. I Yoomi Choi, 36711, Training Recruit  
 P.O. II Alex Schlegel, 32807, Rampart  
 P.O. II Jason Adkins, 35881, Training Recruit

On Sept. 15, 2003, suspect Christopher Ithier and suspect Andrew Bonilla approached a lone female and attempted to rob her. One suspect distracted her while another one produced a chrome handgun and told her, "Give me all you got."

She screamed and attempted to push the gun away from her. Fortunately, P.O. II Jeffery Booker, #34385, and P.O. II Matthew Delao, #34449, were in the area conducting robbery suppression. They immediately responded to the victim's location and attempted to take the suspects into custody. Suspect Bonilla complied with their orders while suspect Ithier decided to flee on foot.

Booker and Delao immediately took Bonilla into custody. They then broadcast the suspect's description, last direction seen and requested both additional units and an air unit to respond.

Air Support Division Air Unit 11 with pilot P.O. II+VI Kris Owen, #24808, and tactical flight officer P.O. II+II Debra Kickbush, #27221, responded and immediately observed the fleeing suspect. They maintained a line of sight and directed responding Hollywood units to the suspect's location.

P.O. III Felipe Tamez, #31330, and P.O. I Giberson, #36311, monitored the broadcast and responded to Cassil Ave. and Selma where they observed the suspect attempting to hide between the parked cars. Tamez and Giberson immediately deployed on the suspect and took him into custody without incident.

P.O. III Daniel Pesqueira, #26906, and P.O. I Yoomi Choi, #26711, along with P.O. II Alex Schlegel, #32807, and P.O. II Jason Adkins, #35881, responded to the location to assist.

The officers determined that an armed robbery had occurred, but no gun had been recovered. The officers also noted that the suspect had not only run through a residential neighborhood, but had run parallel to a private elementary school. The officers made the sound decision to lock down the suspect's route of escape and request a K-9 unit for an item search in order to recover the handgun.

Metropolitan Division K-9 Unit officers responded to the location and coordinated their grid search with Air 11 overhead. They responded to the location where the suspect first fled through the houses. P.O. III Michael Goosby, #26964, P.O. III Linda Travis, #23799, and P.O. III James McConnell, #26321, conducted the item search with the K-9 database and recovered the gun.

Booker and Delao later conducted field show-ups with the victim. Despite her rather emotional state, she positively identified both suspects.

Officers Booker and Delao are commended for their knowledge of the crime locations in Hollywood, their excellent tactics in the apprehension of the first suspect and their immediate broadcast to responding officers. They are further commended for their superior investigation and their attention to duty.

Officers Tamez and Giberson are commended for their attention to duty and their quick and sound tactical response in taking the fleeing suspect into custody.

Officers Pesqueira, Choi, Schlegel and Adkins are commended for their attention to duty and their quick response to the crime location. They immediately deployed and locked down the crime scene and assisted in every task assigned to them without hesitation.

Air Support Division P.O. II+VI Owens and P.O. II+II Kickbush are tenured officers and Air Support veterans. Their knowledge of operations in support of ground officers proved invaluable in facilitating the arrest of the fleeing suspect and the direction of responding K-9 Units, who later recovered the gun.

Metropolitan Division, K-9 Officers Goosby, Travis and McConnell are commended for their attention to duty and ability to interface with patrol officers. Their superior tracking skills led to the recovery of the weapon used in the robbery. The item ended up being a simulated firearm, but this fact made little difference to the victim. This recovery also proved vital in the filing of one count of 211 PC/Robbery against each of the suspects.

Each of these officers completed their tasks as part of a larger team and in doing so, they made the streets of Los Angeles safer for its residents.

★ ★ ★

**Det. II Michael Pelletier, #24284**

**Sergeant Mike Ventura, #30741**

**Officer Magdalena Furmanski, #32080**

**Officer Jim Tumbeiro, #32908**

**Officer Jesse Oropeza, #36282**

**Officer Jason Adkins, #35881**

**Officer Alex Schlegel, #32807**

**Officer Dan Pesqueira, #26906**

**Officer Yoomi Choi, #36711**

**Officer Joe Bezak, #33113**

**Officer Dave Anderson, #36624**

**Officer Rick Oliva, #31131**

**Officer Heidi Bentz, #36662**

On Sept. 16, 2003, a "ADW shots fired" radio call was dispatched at 6019 Barton Avenue. A private security guard had observed the suspect's vehicle and obtained a partial license plate of BCA512 and reported the car to be maroon in color.

Hollywood PM Watch Det. II Michael Pelletier, #24284, was monitoring the frequency and was able to locate a 1992 Toyota Camry with a license plate of 4BCA512. His investigation revealed that a citation had been issued to Roberto Martinez in that vehicle. Martinez is an admitted "Mara Salvatrucha" street gang member.

continued on page 21

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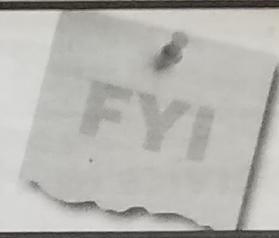
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# FOR YOUR INFORMATION



For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

## THE POLICE MIND

### **Forgotten Heroes, Neglected No More**

by Allison Carter-Peters, Psy.D.  
Guest Contributor

Where is my husband? My uncle? My cousin? Have you seen my coworker, my sister, my mother? My brother?

All of my brothers and sisters, there were 86 of them, have you heard? Have you seen them? Do you care? Our extended family lost 300 plus, but we know where they are—in the thoughts, prayers, minds and television images across the country. My brothers and sisters, they ran in when everyone else ran out too, they remained calm during chaos too, they come when society calls, and Amazing Grace will be played on the bagpipes at each of their funerals too. Have you seen them? They are the devoted men and women of law enforcement that have gone soberly overlooked, under appreciated and misrepresented prior to the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

Nine-eleven, the numbers of men and women of law enforcement rely on to perform their duties and help their fellow man in his darkest moments now have meaning for all of America.

Given mass media reports of law enforcement agencies and of the individuals who work for such agencies it would be hard to acknowledge the fact that law enforcement is the deadliest profession in America. That on average a law enforcement officer is killed every 57 hours in our country, that over 60,000 are assaulted each year, and that as Californians we lost the second highest number of officers nationwide in the year 2000 to line-of-duty deaths. It would be difficult for the average citizen, who gains the majority of his or her knowledge about police officers from mass media, to recall that these individuals are keeping us safe, protecting our families, our homes, and our freedoms on a daily basis. It would be easier to believe that police officers are reckless, morally empty, heartless individuals who gain comfort from seeing others suffer, who pick individuals at random to satisfy their morbid curiosities and who respect no one and nothing. The mass media needs stories and what better than the age-old "good guys against bad guys" routine to rally the public. Police officers are bad, firefighters are good. Police officers are bad; the person who broke the law was misunderstood and is really good. Police officers are bad, gang members come from horrible backgrounds and need compassion not jail time, underneath they are good. The media needs their bad guy and who better than the unequivocal parent figure that watches over us and punishes us when we misbehave?

In the wake of the terrorist attacks on our country, it is time for citizens to open their eyes to the images of law enforcement officers that mass media has spooned into our mouths. It is time for citizens to see that what is being fed is a disguise for the real thing, like when a parent attempts to hide medicine in pudding (what it says about adults that we accept what I fed while children

innately know to spit it out is another topic). It is time for citizens to remember our forgotten heroes and neglect them no more. And to see that in our years of neglect and abuse we have damaged those who protect us.

The influence of mass media upon society's viewpoints is not a new topic. One only has to recall arguments made concerning the influence of music lyrics on crime, of television and video games on children's violent behaviors, of fiction novel plots being utilized to meet real life desires and of motion picture scenes becoming realities in cities across America. Research shows that as a society we are readily willing to believe that mass media has the power to influence our views of violence, ethnic groups, the mentally ill, the elderly, and the gang lifestyle. And we argue against the media's abilities and apparent willingness to do so. Why then are so many fervent to believe media portrayals of law enforcement? Are we to believe that for this one select group of individuals the media becomes objective and truth seeking? That the force officers use is always "excessive" (I wonder why "appropriate" force isn't reported), that there is always a better way to handle a situation than the way in which an officer has (because so many that comment on officer actions have actually been in those situations) and that being murdered is just part of an officer's job (have you ever noticed they never say an officer is murdered, yet the man they shot as he fled from a drive-by shooting is "gunned down")? Mass media has defined a social reality of police officers, of their motives and of their profession that is a fabrication, and in doing so has impacted police officers' morale, stress levels and coping abilities.

In exploring the images mass media has created of law enforcement, it is no wonder a "thin blue line" or a "code of silence" exists; they have no other choice! And yet, it is this same thin blue line that is criticized. As a society, we are to blame for its creation, for we have given our officers nowhere to turn but inward. Through the media's influence of public opinion, citizens learn that when officers come to our aid we should quietly (and only maybe) say thank you, but if they enforce the laws we have voted for and given them the right to enforce, we should cry foul. Police officers are viewed as "...the ones who come to get you...firefighters are the ones who help you," said one officer in describing the media's influence on public opinion for these brotherhood careers. Imagine what it was like for police officers to see the abundance of footage concerning the loss of firefighters following the terrorist attacks. Where were their fallen brothers in the media? "My first thought when I heard that the buildings collapsed was 'My God! How many guys, meaning police officers and firefighters, were in there?'" It was hard for me to think of all those officers and firefighters in there without getting teary eyed," said one officer, although he did not report seeing coverage of the loss of police officers in the

immediate days following the attacks. "Cops were an afterthought in most broadcasts," he said. Another stated, upon learning of the 86 police officers who were killed, "[I felt] sadness. Losing a fellow police officer, even though you never met them, it's like losing a family member. There's a bond between cops everywhere." Imagine the impact this "afterthought" had on the morale of officers nationwide. For police officers esprit de corps can only be felt while with fellow officers because the media sets the social reality that officers are unimportant, they can be forgotten and be unacknowledged and unappreciated. No one likes to feel unimportant, especially someone who, without even knowing your name, would take your place in death. Being portrayed as an "afterthought" to the public you are hired to protect allows for the development of anger. "I also got very angry at people (upon hearing how many police officers and firefighters were killed in the collapse of the World Trade towers)...86 police officers without helmets, self contained breathing apparatus or proper training were also in the building saving lives when they died." Another officer responded, 'I don't think the media gave police officers the coverage they deserved. Firemen are paid to go into burning buildings, cops aren't. That goes to show who went above and beyond their call of duty.' Ask yourself, would you return to work day in and day out if you were treated the way police officers are treated? Would you continue to put yourself in the line of fire, to deal with grief stricken parents who were just notified about their child's murder, to be attacked by victims of domestic abuse who don't want you to arrest their spouse even though you just stopped the third beating of the evening, to be spit on by a disrespectful teenager, to be called a "pig," to miss holidays with your family, to miss your children's first steps and words? Would you accept a job like this? (Oh, don't forget your salary is disgraceful.) How would your self esteem, confidence and morale withstand this abuse? And now imagine how just one word of thanks, one "Hey, thanks for doing what you do" could classify it as a great day at work.

Morale is not the only aspect of being a police officer that is impacted by the

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**More For Your Information on next page**

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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Service to Irish-American Law Enforcement Officers and Dedication to the Community

**The Society:** The Los Angeles Police Emerald Society (LAPES) is a multi-agency, social-fraternal organization founded in 1992 with the objective of fostering goodwill among the members of the numerous law enforcement communities in California and celebrating the dedication of Irish-American law enforcement officers. LAPES is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)7 corporation. Donations to LAPES are not tax deductible. LAPES is a member organization of the National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies.

#### Membership:

**Regular** – Sworn peace officer, law enforcement officer, or criminal investigator, whether active or retired, of Irish heritage.

**Associate** – Any person sponsored by a member of this Emerald Society who is in good standing. Associate members do not have voting rights in society matters.

Dues: \$25 a year.

**Objectives:** To develop a spirit of brotherhood and fellowship among its members. To encourage greater participation in the activities of organizations existing within the law enforcement community. To encourage members to fully familiarize themselves with the prescribed, authorized and accepted prac-



tices and procedures of law enforcement and forensic procedures so that they will be able to serve their constituents in a more courteous, intelligent, and efficient manner. To engender exemplary conduct on the part of its members, thereby creating respect and goodwill toward law enforcement personnel. To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and of the State of California at all times. To instill and preserve in its members the heritage of their Irish culture. To award scholarships annually to children of members of this society.

**Meetings:** General membership meetings are held monthly at the Los Angeles Police Academy Lounge, 1880 North Academy Drive, Los Angeles. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Call the Emerald Society office at (213) 747-4743 (7IRISH3) for meeting information.

**Web Page:** Visit our Web page at

continued on page 22

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## Poet's Corner

### Policework is My Job

And would make it your last day

Be ready to protect life  
From all things bad  
Be ready to use force

To prevent someone from being had

Be ready to pry into someone's life  
Like you never wanted to know  
Be ready for your life to be pried  
Like they shouldn't -but do anyhow

Be ready to be in the wrong place  
At the wrong time  
And be thankful that its you  
Cuz you've been trained  
In what to do.

You say you want my job  
After I tell you all of this  
Tough luck my friend-get lost  
I'm not ready to give in

This is my job-I hold it dear  
I may bitch and complain  
I may get wet-I may get cold  
I may stand in the rain  
I won't go hungry—so I'm told  
But I may have some pain  
I may give up some freedom  
I may be someone's bane

Sorry to be so bold  
In this little refrain  
You say you want my job  
And I say without fear  
This is my job-I hold it dear  
Don't touch it you little deev.  
Let me make this clear  
I am not ready to leave.

—Pat Barron  
Hollywood Detectives



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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

# Remembering Filbert Cuesta, Jr.



Sergeant Duran (with Mr. and Mrs. Cuesta) at our home before our dinner.

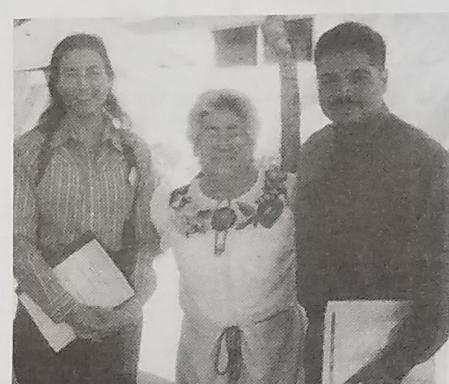
Dear LAPD Blue Line Editor:

We, Filbert and Rose Cuesta, Sr., parents of Officer Filbert Cuesta, Jr., E.O.W. 8/9/98, wish to express our thanks to Sgt. Richard Duran, Southwest Division and also two young Southwest Division officers who took us out for a wonderful dinner at Maggie's Pub on Thursday, Aug. 7, 2003.

Thank you Southwest Division for remembering our son's 5th year anniversary of his death with the Red Cross Blood Drive. Thank you all for donating

blood in Fil Jr.'s remembrance. We attended the memorial in his memory in the morning of Friday, Aug. 8, 2003 and were happy to see many LAPD officers from different divisions. We "feel our son" while being with the LAPD officers.

Also, we'd like to thank Assistant Chief McDonnell, Fil Jr.'s boss at the Southwest Division, for making it all possible for Mr. Cuesta, Sr., to ride with the Southwest LAPD officers to Deputy Sheriff Steve Sorensen's funeral in Lancaster on Aug. 7, 2003.



Central Division Detectives.



Central Division Officers.



Central Division Officers.



Our son was in the Academy with Officer Levi on the right.



Southwest Division Officer who took us to dinner.

P.S. Please thank Sgt. O'Neil, Southwest Division, for his hospitality! ♦

Mr. & Mrs. Filbert Cuesta, Sr.

## Then and Now

**Los Angeles Police Historical Society  
"Behind the Badge: The LAPD Experience"  
Museum & Community Education Center**

### Then...

THE "NO" HEARD AROUND THE WORLD: contributed by Art Sjoquist, Captain LAPD (Retired)

The most notable special event in 1959 was the visit to Los Angeles by Nikita Khruschev, Premier of the United Soviet Socialist Republic (U.S.S.R.). Prior to Khruschev's arrival, advance Soviet security officials, accompanied by State Department personnel, met with Chief of Police William H. Parker for a review of security measures. The entire itinerary had been planned in minute detail and filled 127 typewritten pages.

Every overpass and underpass along the Premier's route had been pre-assigned to security officers. The motorcade proceeded at the predetermined rate of 28 miles per hour. Every motorcycle officer knew in advance which intersection he was to close when the procession passed.

Upon his arrival, Khruschev began a crowded schedule of tours and speaking engagements. Each mile of the pre-arranged route was guarded and patrolled by officers on foot, in vehicles and in the air. The rooftops of buildings adjoining the Ambassador Hotel, where Khruschev was staying, were heavily patrolled. Nothing was left to chance!

Then Khruschev asked to visit Disneyland. Considering the security demands of such a visit, Chief Parker said, "No!"

The news story that Parker had vetoed Khruschev's request to go to Disneyland

broke all over the world. But because of Parker's worldwide reputation as chief of one of the world's finest departments and his expertise in security, the State Department and Soviet security relented. A disappointed Premier Khruschev went home to Russia without his Mickey Mouse ears!

### Now...

"FALLEN HEROES TRIBUTE": Dave Dalton, Executive director, L.A. Police Historical Society

Legendary United States Marshal Matt Dillon of "Gunsmoke" fame perhaps said it best of his career as a law enforcement officer, "I'm the first man they call and the last one they want to meet. Being Marshal is a chancy job; it makes you more aware but vulnerable and a little bit lonely." As a long-time fan of "Gunsmoke," I must have heard those words hundreds of times. They resonated true, however, every time I experienced one of those life-changing moments as a police officer that wrench your gut, grip you with fear and make you wonder, "Is this the end?"

In the midst of struggling for your life with an ex-con, or looking down the wrong end of a gun or knife wielded by some nutcase, or even putting down some "hype" whose concealed needle could inflict a deadly AIDS or hepatitis-laden prick—the thought does occur! Somehow, though, the whole fear/adrenaline-inspired rush, coupled with a

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BL01

## Got Recruit – Get Money

by Schirete Zick

With the holidays right around the corner, a \$500 makes a very nice gift. That's the gift you will get for recruiting a new LAPD officer under the Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program (PORIP). But where does one find a potential candidate? Everywhere. Officer Evelyn Gutierrez, of the Hollenbeck Division found her candidate at a Girl Scout meeting.

No it wasn't long ago, and Officer Gutierrez didn't have to wait for the girl to grow up. Rather, she recruited one of the parents, Javier Landeros, who entered the Academy about a month ago.

"My daughter is a girl scout at a troop where the leader and his wife hold the meetings at their house. When the Landeros found out that I was an officer, they began to ask questions because Javier was trying to get on with the CHP and Inland Empire agencies. At the time, Javier worked for Probation," Gutierrez said.

"I told him it's a great job, with great benefits, and salary, and explained the process. A week after that conversation, Javier took the written test, and now, he is in the Academy."

It natural for Officer Gutierrez to talk about the LAPD with enthusiasm, for she always wanted to be a Police Officer and paved the way to becoming one.

"I was working as fraud investigator for Bank of America for 8 years before joining the LAPD in August of 1995. It was a great job, but a stepping stone from a job to a career," Gutierrez said. "We investigated check ATM fraud. But, it has always been a dream of mine to become a police officer."

Gutierrez told that she came from a line of servicemen, so it was a natural progression. "My father was an Officer with the Sheriff's Department. I saw that you're not confined to a desk," Gutierrez said.

When asked if she will continue to recruit, Gutierrez replied with a story. "Yesterday a young woman walked into station to fill out a report for violation of restraining order. We struck a conversation and I asked her if she wanted to become a police officer and she was very interested."

"This job is special," Gutierrez said. "If I can go through the day knowing

that I made a difference in someone's life it's just rewarding right there."

Officer Grace Kelley, who is a Training Officer at the Academy agrees.

"I've recruited other officers just by friends that I know. Young men and women that are interested in law enforcement I always tell them, you want to go to the Los Angeles Police Department. We have a compressed work schedule. We have a very diverse department, and the opportunity is incredible. In my 12 years, I have probably worked more specialized assignments than most officers will work in a career at other agencies."

Officer Kelley said she notices at the graduation that many recruits either have friends or family members that are in law enforcement.

"Officers recruiting their next partner is a good idea," Kelley said. "In the



Five Hundred Dollars 500.00

Officer Evelyn Gutierrez, of Hollenbeck Division is pleased with the "Big Check." Officer Gutierrez received the \$500 incentive for recruiting Javier Landeros, who is now attending the Academy.

last few classes, I have noticed so many officers from Los Angeles Police Department here. And I'll ask them, who are you here for? Do you have a relative graduating? They'll say, no, I have a friend."

Kelley tells of a co-worker who recruited a neighbor who thought he had exceeded the recruitment age. "Oh, I'm 39 years old. I'm too old," he said. That was about six months ago. Monday morning, he'll be starting his career with LAPD," Kelley said. "Any officer I talk with highly recommends this department. Why? Because we're happy here."

For more information about the incentive program, call Janeshia Robinson at 213.847.9644.

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## COMMENDABLE COPPER CAPERS

continued from page 16

Pelletier conducted a field follow-up to Martinez's residence and observed the vehicle parked in the rear lot. He gained access to the lot and observed a suspect seated in the front passenger seat. The suspect appeared to be asleep. Pelletier was able to observe MS13 tattooed on his left hand and a glove on his right hand. A blue steel handgun was visible on the floorboard at the suspect's feet.

Pelletier tactically redeployed and requested a backup for an armed suspect in the vehicle. Officer Magdalena Furmanski, #32080, responded to the backup request. Hollywood supervisors Sgt. Rick Rodgers, #31318, and Sgt. Mike Ventura, #30741, responded to the location and formulated a tactical plan.

Officers were designated as cover officers, contact officers, arrest team and trailers. Communications, cover and approach were all debriefed prior to the approach.

The officers attempted to verbalize with the suspect and gain compliance. Unfortunately, they received no acknowledgement and observed no movement inside the vehicle. The officers then tactically deployed and utilized a distraction by breaking out the rear window. The officers then broke out the front passenger window and immediately restrained the suspect from arming himself. He was taken into custody without incident.

A follow-up was done to apartment #201 in an effort to locate the registered owner of the vehicle. After knocking several times on the door and not getting

compliance, the officers forced the door open and detained four individuals.

They also discovered a large quantity of marijuana clogging the kitchen sink and master bathroom toilet. Large bags of marijuana, scales, a 9mm pistol and a shotgun were also recovered.

Further investigation revealed that a Rampart Area homicide had occurred with a similar suspect vehicle. The investigation was ongoing at the time of the commendation.

All in all, four suspects were booked and three firearms were recovered. Possible suspects in a Rampart homicide had also been identified.

Det. II Pelletier is commended for his attention to duty, his keen and skillful investigative skills that led him to the location and his observation of the suspect. Clearly, this detective-initiated arrest was the result of his tenacity and his leadership.

This incident could have easily resulted in an officer involved shooting. The superior tactics and teamwork resulted in an outstanding arrest without the loss of life.

Officers Tumbeiro, Adkins, Schlegel, Pesqueira, Bezak, Anderson, Oropesa, Choi, Oliva, Bentz and Furmanski are commended for their attention to duty, teamwork, tactical planning and deployment skills and their calm demeanor in the face of danger.

The combined efforts of Detective and Patrol personnel reflect great credit upon themselves and are in keeping with the best traditions of the Department. Clearly, the streets are safer as a result of their dedication and efforts.

More For Your Information on next page

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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Irish American

continued from page 18

[www.emeraldsociety.net](http://www.emeraldsociety.net)

**Pipes & Drums Band:** Interested in becoming an Emerald Society bagpiper or drummer? Members of our band have appeared at numerous community and law enforcement-related events, and marched in parades. Further information can be obtained at our monthly meetings, or call the Emerald Society office at (213) 747-4743 (7IRISH3).

**Activities:** Each year you can look forward to, among other activities, our Saint Patrick's party and a summer potluck, pool party. We march in the Los Angeles St. Patrick's Day Parade, and then in the Hermosa Beach St. Patrick's

Day Parade, followed by an open house party at the nearby home of one of our members. In addition, through our bi-monthly newsletter, *The Garda News*, find out about our other activities, and activities in the Irish-American community in this area.

**Society Officers:** President, Scott Walton, LAPD; Vice President, Regina "Reggie" Canale-Miles, FBI; Secretary, Gary Macnamara, LAPD; Treasurer, T.J. O'Donnell, CHP; Sergeant-at-Arms, Michael Murphy.

Annual dues are \$25. If you would like to be a member, please contact: Los Angeles Police Emerald Society, 714 West Olympic Blvd., Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90015, Phone: (213) 7IRISH3; Web site: [www.emeraldsociety.net](http://www.emeraldsociety.net).

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## "A Night With Joe Friday"

### "Tribute to LAPD Detectives Real & Reel"

Saturday, November 22, 2003

5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Museum & Community Education Center  
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\$20 (includes BBQ Dinner & Door Prizes)

Last date to purchase tickets: Friday, November 14, 2003

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# Five Star Earns Certified Program Honor

Take a great program — the Chrysler Group's Certified Pre-Owned Vehicle Program — and add the corporation's top-notch dealers — Five Star dealers. The result is a program that, although in its infancy, is already winning consumer recognition.

"We're proud to have been named the best domestic certified pre-owned vehicle program in America\* by IntelliChoice," said Ray Fisher, DaimlerChrysler Vice President, Fleet and Remarketing. "It validates our decision to offer the best pre-owned vehicles through the best dealers in the Chrysler Group family. That result is a win-win situation for our customers."

Fisher was referring to a September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs by IntelliChoice — an automotive information provider. The company also ranked the Chrysler

Group's certified pre-owned vehicle program the second-best overall non-luxury certified program in America, ahead of such companies as Toyota, Saturn, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, GMC and Volkswagen.

"To be ranked above companies that have been selling certified pre-owned vehicles for quite some time clearly shows we did our homework prior to launching this program. We made sure it contains all of the elements that today's customers want from a certified pre-owned vehicle program," Fisher added.

Available exclusively via Five Star dealers, Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are a great value for anyone looking for a high-quality, thoroughly inspected vehicle.

"We're very selective about who can become



a Five Star dealer. We're just as discriminating about which vehicles can be considered candidates for our certification.

In fact, it's limited to late-model vehicles in excellent condition. If the vehicle is over five model years old or has over 65,000 miles, it's immediately excluded, as is any vehicle without a clean history or title,"

Fisher added.

Once these vehicles pass the qualification standards, they undergo a rigorous 125-point inspection that focuses

on the mechanical, safety and appearance elements of the vehicle.

"Customers expect us to look at those critical elements. However, even such mundane items as a missing spare key or Owner's Manual will be enough to cause us to not certify a vehicle," Fisher explained.

All Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are backed by an 8-year or 80,000-mile (measured from original vehicle in-service date) Powertrain Limited

Warranty that covers over 250 engine, driveline and transmission components. Should the vehicle require repair to a covered component, the customer's only financial responsibility is a \$50 deductible per repair visit.

During the same mileage/time period, the Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are eligible for 24-hour Roadside Assistance, covering such items as flat tire changes, fuel delivery, lock-out assistance and battery jump starts.

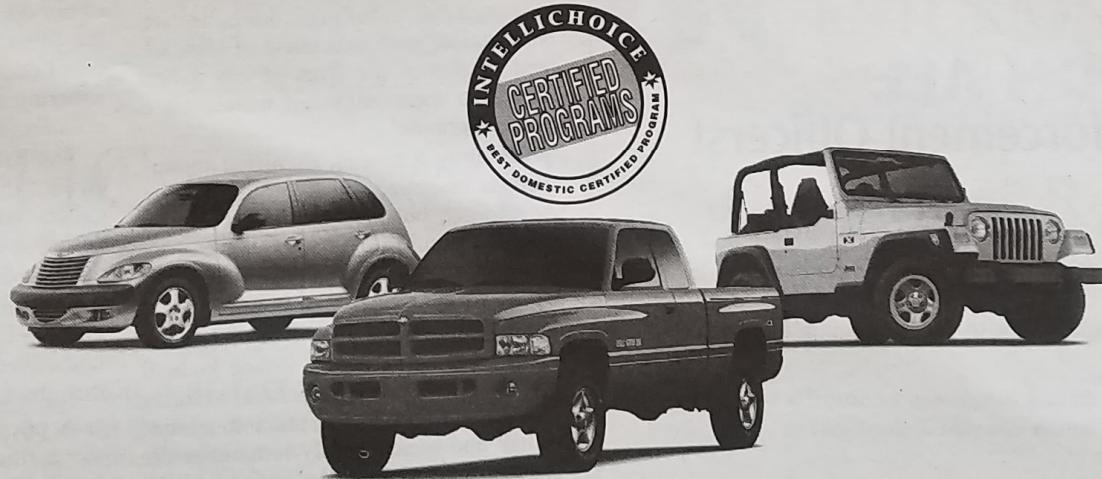
There's even Car Rental Allowance, which reimburses owners up to \$30 a day should their vehicle be kept overnight for service during the 8/80,000 Powertrain Limited Warranty period.

Certified Pre-Owned Vehicle customers may also purchase one of three warranty upgrades: Added Care, Added Care Plus or Maximum Care for maximum component coverage.

"Making this program exclusive to our Five Star dealers ensures our customers are receiving the absolute best customer treatment. I'm really happy to see an independent outfit like IntelliChoice recognized the hard work of all the folks that helped put our program together. We will strive to make the program even better next year," Fisher concluded.

\*IntelliChoice® Inc. (www.IntelliChoice.com) September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs. Domestic brands are both originated and based in the United States.

## First, they earned their stars. Now they've earned their stripes.



IntelliChoice rated Chrysler, Jeep, and Dodge's Five Star Certified Pre-Owned Program ahead of Toyota, Saturn, Ford, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, GMC and Volkswagen.\*

Now Blue Line readers can take advantage of Five Star's award-winning 8-Year/80,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty,<sup>†</sup> 125-point inspection, 24-hour Roadside Assistance,<sup>‡</sup> Car Rental Allowance<sup>§</sup> and more.

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\*Warranty runs 8 years from date vehicle was new or 80,000 miles on odometer. A deductible applies. For more details and a copy of the limited warranty, see dealer or call 1-800-677-5STAR. Availability may vary by dealer.  
†Administered by Cross Country Motor Club, Inc., Medford, MA 02155. You must call 1-800-521-2779 for prior authorization to receive these benefits. <sup>‡</sup>Rental car coverage only if repairs take vehicle out of service more than one day.  
\*IntelliChoice rated DaimlerChrysler's Certified Program for Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge among the best non-luxury pre-owned programs in America, ahead of Ford, Mercury, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, Saturn, Toyota, Volkswagen and Hyundai.  
IntelliChoice rated DaimlerChrysler's Certified Pre-Owned Program for Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge the best domestic non-luxury pre-owned program in America (ahead of Ford, Mercury, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Saturn).  
Domestic brands are both originated and based in the United States. IntelliChoice® Inc., (www.IntelliChoice.com) September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs.  
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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### League Director Speaks at Harvard Law

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Ted Hunt, three consecutive contracts on time over the past nine years, and how the League has strongly influenced public policy in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Also participating in the event was Dave Topaz, President of the Sacramento Police Officers Association who served on a panel which discussed challenges impacting newly-elected police union presidents.

The two-day event was sponsored by Harvard University and *American Police Beat Magazine*. ♦

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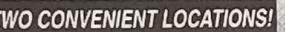
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### FYI: Ten Largest Police Departments in the United States

(Source: US Department of Justice)

Agency	Total Number	Number per 10,000 residents	Percent responding to calls <sup>1</sup>
New York City	40,435	50	65%
Chicago	13,466	47	76%
Los Angeles	9,341	25	63%
Philadelphia	7,024	46	59%
Houston	5,343	27	67%
Detroit	4,154	44	53%
Washington D.C.	3,612	63	51%
Nassau County NY	3,038	23	54%
Baltimore	3,034	47	60%
Miami-Dade County	3,008	13	52%

<sup>1</sup> All full-time sworn personnel with general arrest powers who were uniformed officers with regularly assigned duties that include responding to calls for service. ♦

### Then and Now

continued from page 20

strong will to survive, kicks in and the thought of dying in that stinking, "chancy" moment is repulsive enough to incite a survival response. Training, mental preparation for such an encounter, physical endurance and prayer ultimately determine the victor—most of the time.

But I am also mindful of all the officers who bravely stared death in the face and were dealt a fatal blow. Fate is fickle—and chancy! And death is greedy and often instantaneous, never affording the slightest chance to respond, nor caring that this officer was a person, not just a uniform and badge, whose life mattered! They each had a family and loved ones left behind to try and make sense of something that doesn't. They had likes and dislikes, hobbies and interests, friends, possibly a spouse and children left without a father or mother, a husband or wife. Yet in all our collective concern and profound sense of loss, we tend to reduce the lives of our fallen heroes to mere engraved names on a piece of granite!

Certainly a proper, dignified monument is essential and rightful—lest we ever forget; but there is so much more than we should do as well. We can be thankful for such incredible organizations as the Los Angeles Police Protective League, the Police Memorial Foundation, the Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union, Police Relief and so many others that have done so much to memorialize and meaningfully remember the stricken lives behind the badge and the loved ones left behind. I was privileged several years ago to guide the development of the Memorial Court of Honor at the Ahmanson Recruit Training Center. At the center of the Memorial is a hand reverently raised, in the middle of which is outlined the indiscernible gender of an ascending human spirit. Around the wrist are words drafted by LAPD Master Chaplain, Rev. Father Michael McCullough: "I was consumed in free-

dom's cause. Regrets? None save one...my loved ones' agony. Remember them for me."

The Board of Directors, Los Angeles Police Historical Society, has approved the creation of a "Fallen Heroes Tribute" gallery that will "remember them" on behalf of each LAPD officers who has paid the ultimate blood price for our freedom and the values we cherish. It will be located on the top floor of "Behind the Badge: The LAPD Experience," Museum and Community Education, 6045 York Blvd. (the former old Highland Park station). This tribute will be a place of dignity, honor, reverence and remembrance. The totality of each officer's life will be represented using various displays, memorabilia and interactive multimedia. As John Tolle, Senior Pastor, The Lighthouse Church, recently described so poignantly in a sermon—when you study a grave marker or headstone, there are normally two dates—one denoting birth and the other the date of our demise. However, the sum total of our life, all the years in between, are represented by a simple dash. That's a sobering and humbling thought, but nevertheless true.

The Fallen Heroes Tribute will focus on the "dash" in each officer's life. The gallery has already been magnificently designed by Concepts to Creation under the direction of Kristin Firrell, and funding efforts have begun in earnest. LAPHS feels that this is our most important effort, and we need your help to see this project through to completion!

A portion of the net proceeds from the forthcoming event "A Night With Joe Friday" (November 22), designed to honor past and present LAPD detectives, will be directed to this project. So purchase your tickets now! You can also contribute directly to this project. Make your check payable to "LAPHS" and indicate "Fallen Heroes Tribute" in the notes. Cash and credit cards are also accepted. Please generously support this project; these are the LAPD's true heroes, and their memory deserves our best! ♦

Collecting uniforms for Costa Rica and non-LAPD-issued police equipment that still works but you don't use anymore.

Call Freddy Arroyo at (323) 526-3163, work, and (909) 712-6257, cell. ♦

## The Police Mind

continued from page 17

images media portrays to the public. The stress levels of officers and their families, as well as their coping abilities are also impacted. Did you know that more cops commit suicide every year than are murdered on the job? Why isn't this all over the television and splattered on newspapers? Will the officer suicides that no doubt will occur as a result of the stress and guilt related to the attacks of 9-11 be broadcast and make newspaper headlines? If past disasters and suicides related with them are any indications, then no, the media will have long forgotten and leave the public believing the officers have gone about their lives unaffected. "The additional stress from the media reduces our effectiveness to cope with the stress of police work," said one veteran officer, while another stated, "It is hard to be hated all the time...people are taught to fear us and fear breeds

hatred. It's hard to care about people who hate you, but we put ourselves in danger for these same people every day." As for the families of officers, just ask yourself how many police wives do you see driving around with license plate frames that say "I love my policeman," with police stickers all over their cars, or with a vanity plate depicting an officer? None, because the officer's fear of having his family targeted for violence due to his job being too great. Having a police officer parent may be cool and fun for show-and-tell in kindergarten, but it is a curse as a child grows older. There is a constant ambivalence between wanting to live by the rules and values with which you have been raised and wanting to prove to your friends that you can be as defiant of the law as they are. So when your significant other is upset because of how your job impacts home life, your children no longer admire your career, the media depicts you as power hungry and harmful to citizens, and society turns

its back on you, where do you turn? "I tend not to talk much about it, but if I do, it's usually to a good friend who is also on the job. They usually tend to understand more of what's going on," states an officer. Others acknowledge the strain job stress has on relationships. "It seems the only people who really understand are not our significant others, but our work partners. This undermines the relationship between officers and their significant others," and the tendency of many officers to turn to substance abuse as a means of coping. "...for a long time I turned to athletics and alcohol." An officer's world of social support can become very small, very quickly. "There is a (unspoken) rule in police work that you don't discuss your job with outsiders, because they a) would not understand; b) would not care; c) would believe you were making most of it up. So you confide in your friends, other cops." And the cycle of mass media defining a negative social reality of police officers, therefore influencing the public's perception of law enforcement and causing the officers increased stress and decreased morale begins yet again.

Let's recap. What we have here are men and women who are gravely misrepresented by mass media, causing the citizens they protect to view them and their motives in a negative light, which in turn affects their morale, stress levels, home life and coping abilities. What we have are individuals who take pride and honor in their jobs, but who are not shown the gratitude their duties demand. What we have are individuals who will continue to serve the citizens of this country and remember their fallen "brothers" long after we all forget the role they played. (Don't believe me?

Editorial cartoons ridiculing law enforcement due to the reinstated ability to search homes have already appeared in newspapers. I wonder who the cartoonist will call when his art studio is ransacked! Television broadcasts have already questioned the "abuse" of power this will surely create. How quickly we forget! What we have are individuals who are severely misunderstood and misrepresented by mass media. "I think the media's negative attitude does a disservice to the community," says an officer. "There are thousands upon thousands of men and women who have sacrificed the best hours of the best days of their lives—away from their families—for public service." Another officer stated that he would like the media to "...be put in my boots for a month, not on a ride-along, but in uniform...have them do that and they will change the way they portray us." A third officer stated, "Show a little more appreciation towards officers and show positive images of officers carrying out their duties. Let the public see that we are not machines, but humans just like they are."

Strip the badge, the gun and the uniform from these individuals and we would be calling their actions and devotion to the public heroic. What a sad reflection it is on the public they serve that we stop looking for what is exemplified under the badge, the gun and the uniform, that we allow the media to define for us what lies beneath.

Stop! Look! Question what mass media portrays and defines. See the heroes you have neglected for too long. Say thank you. Today may be the day they save your life. Tomorrow may be the day they lose their own. ♦

## More For Your Information on next page



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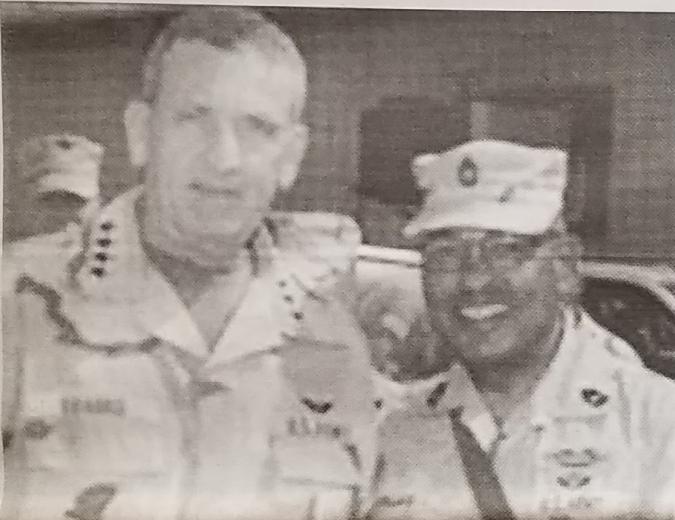
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## Art Valles Meets General Tommy Franks



Hi: I thought I'd pass along a photo of me and General Tommy Franks that was taken when I was in Kuwait. I retired from LAPD in 1996 out of CTD and am in the Army Reserve currently serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. I'm currently assigned to HQ, US Central Command and will be going home next month.

M/Sgt. Art Valles  
#14675, LAPD Retired

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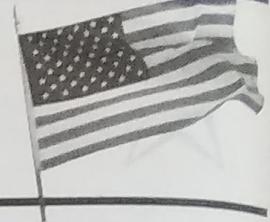
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# VETERAN'S CORNER





**American Legion**  
Police Post # 381

*Post Commander Dennis DeNoi*

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THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

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(818) 781-2261

**ADJUTANT FRANK ORTIZ**  
160 N. Glendora Avenue  
Covina, CA 91724  
(626) 331-4271

**EDITOR "JJ" LEONARD**  
(818) 992-1414

## Commander's Message

### "A Monumental Event"

The Nation just observed the second anniversary of the horrendous attacks on our civilian population and the American way of life. To commemorate this event, several members of Police Post 381 attended the 9-11 observance and memorial dedication that was hosted by the Los Angeles Fire Department. The Fire Department erected an impressive monument on the historic grounds of their academy. The monument consists of a 20-foot tall piece of one of the twin towers. The Post arranged to join in with the Fire Department and we provided 250 small American flags that we passed out dressed in our Post shirts and caps. The flags were a big hit with the standing room only crowd, and could be seen everywhere. The event was well attended by both Angelenos and high-ranking State, City and Department officials. After the expected speeches, pomp and ceremony, the veil covering the monument was lifted revealing a very distinctive piece of the twin towers superstructure, back dropped by a large American Flag which was suspended from crossed ladders. This monument makes the attacks of 9-11, 3-D and brings the full impact of the infamous event home in a personal way. As all the "Johnny-come-lately" patriots' American flags fade and tatter away, the true patriots need to keep that pivotal terrorist event alive in the American public's eye. I ask you to stop by and place your palm on this pillar of steel and see if it doesn't energize your resolve to see this war on terrorism through to the end. As we look to our future, we must remember those that fought our nation's battles in the past and made it possible for us to enjoy this great nation with all its freedoms. November 11, is Veteran's Day and I would like to encourage all of you to attend an event honoring all our veterans. If it's been years since you attended a memorial service or patriotic event on Veteran's Day or have never done so, I ask that you consider doing it this year. There are usually numerous public events planned and with a little research, you should be able to locate one near you. The war on terrorism may seem distant to many people, but as the Department Military Liaison Officer, I work with a hundred plus employees and their families that are currently serving on active military duty. They are enduring the many hardships associated with military service such as family separation, overseas assignments and in some

cases combat duty. My association with these families keeps the war very real in my life. I ask you to take a few minutes out of your busy day to honor those who are taking the fight back to the enemy and away from our homes and loved ones. Semper Fi, DJD.



Rob Welborn, Hal Yarnell, Dennis DeNoi, Frank Ortiz, and Mark Gerin (present not in photo, Joe Mueller and William Bratton)



Los Angeles Fire Academy 9-11 monument.

## Veterans Day

Veterans Day is dedicated to remembering the service and sacrifices that U.S. military servicemembers have made for their country, including the 25 million living veterans in this country. This legal holiday is observed on November 11.

### The History of Veterans Day

November 11, or what has come to be known as Veterans Day, was originally set as a U. S. legal holiday to honor Armistice Day – the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. In legislation that was passed in 1938, November 11 was "dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day.'" As such, this new legal holiday honored World War I veterans.

In 1954, after having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U. S. Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

In 1968, the Uniforms Holiday Bill insured three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. Under this bill, Veterans Day was moved to the last Monday of October. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holiday on its original date. The first Veterans Day under the new

law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971.

Finally on September 20, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed a law, which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. Since then, the Veterans Day holiday has been observed on November 11.

Other countries honor their veterans each year on November 11, although the name and types of commemorations differ somewhat from the U. S. holiday. Canada and Australia observe "Remembrance Day" on November 11, and

the U. S. celebration, but unlike in the U.S., many Canadians wear red poppy flowers on November 11 in honor of their war dead. In Great Britain, the day is commemorated by church services and parades of ex-service members in Whitehall, a wide ceremonial avenue leading from London's Parliament Square to Trafalgar Square. A two-minute silence is observed at 11 a.m., to honor those who lost their lives in wars. Approximately 10,000 Veterans march in the 'Remembrance Day Parade' with the Queen giving the salute!

## What Is A VETERAN?

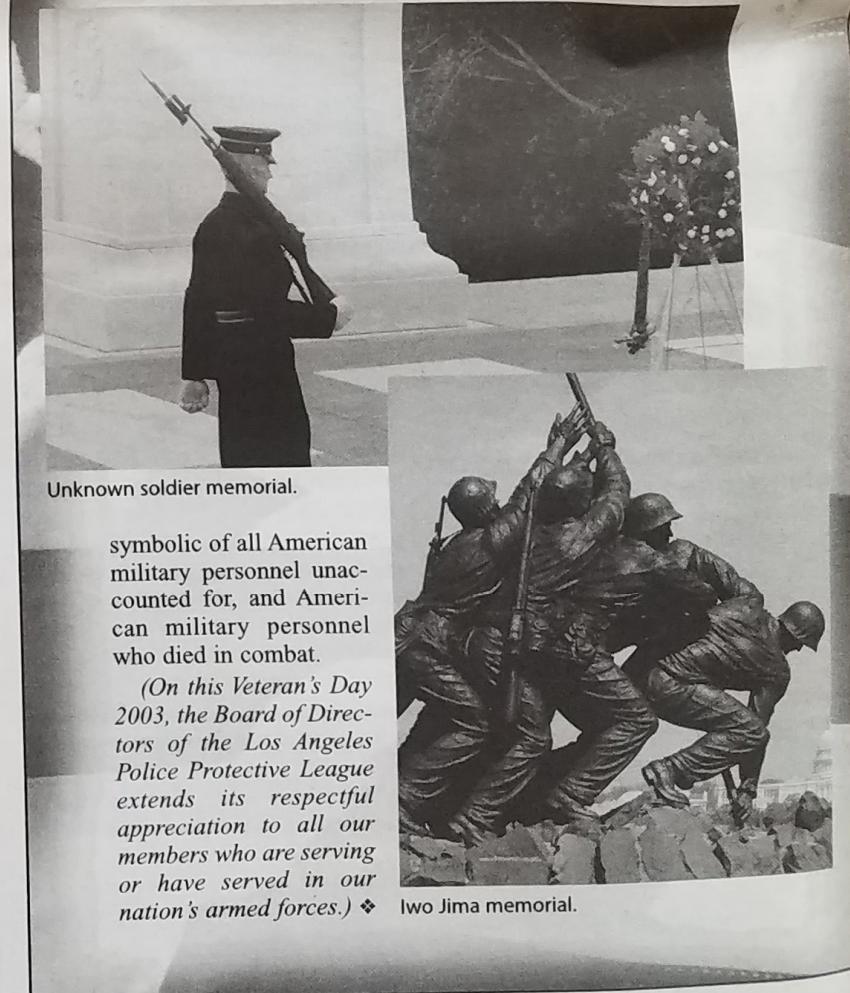
He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than a wooden plank, whose overgrown

## Honoring Our Veterans

The Third Infantry Regiment at Fort Myer has the responsibility for providing ceremonial units and honor guards for state occasions, White House social functions, public celebrations and interments at Arlington National Cemetery and standing a very formal sentry watch at the Tombs of the Unknowns. This drill has occurred continuously 24/7, since 1930.

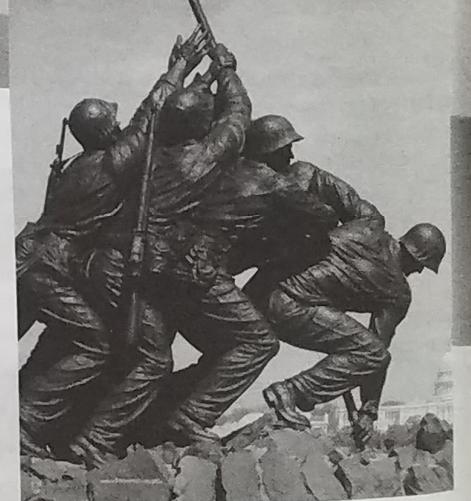
The teeth of hurricane Isabel came through this area and tore out everything. There were thousands of trees down, power outages, traffic signals out, and roads filled with downed limbs. They had flooding and the place looked like what it was, a national disaster area. The Regimental commander of the U.S. Third Infantry sent word to the nighttime Sentry detail to secure the post and seek shelter from the high winds, to ensure their personal safety. They did not stand down and continued their vigilant watch at the tomb! To these men, the continuity of this post is a "Charge of honor" and the key to the honor and respect shown to these honored dead.



Unknown soldier memorial.

symbolic of all American military personnel unaccounted for, and American military personnel who died in combat.

*(On this Veteran's Day 2003, the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Police Protective League extends its respectful appreciation to all our members who are serving or have served in our nation's armed forces.) ♦*



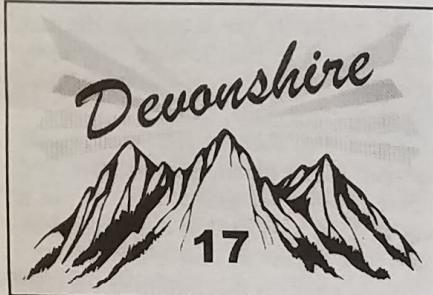
frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times by his four years of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel in Korea.

She is the nurse who fought against

*continued on page 49*

# DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Sergeant Rudy Santos  
Devonshire Division

## A New Detective Unit

On July 28, 2003, a new unit was formed in Devonshire Detectives. This unit of highly trained detectives is responsible for the filing of all in-custody felony arrestees. Though they are a secret and elite unit I managed to get the names of the detectives working the filing team through my secret contact in the detective squad room who tells me all the scoop on his detectives, Lieutenant Eddy.

The filing team consists of Detective II **Malena Heisel**. She is the leader of the rowdy group and is responsible for major decision making, such as where lunch is to be held. Sergeant **Bruce Heschong** is second in command. A tough ex-Marine and determined investigator, Bruce forms the backbone of the

unit as well as the arms, legs, and feet. The two other members of the team are Detective I **Rhonda Von Gober** and Detective I **Kevin Royce**. Their sound investigative expertise and easygoing attitude makes them two of the nicest persons anyone can go to for sound detective advice.

According to Detective Heisel, the quality of reports coming in is the reason for the high filing rate. Officers are making an effort to work closely with detectives and are making sure all the elements of the crime are properly documented. The solid teamwork that has developed between patrol officers and detectives is resulting in quality arrests, reports, and filings. This winning combination has a positive effect on the reduction of crime in Devonshire.

## Alert Officers and Teamwork Result In A Big Catch

On June 22, 2003, a burglar broke into a medical building on Balboa Boulevard just north of Devonshire Street. Brain cells not being abundant in the perpetrator's head, he was caught on film through surveillance cameras. At one point, he looked straight at the camera, thus allowing a clear picture to be captured of him. The suspect took various machines related to the medical field and fled the location. In addition to

this crime, the suspect was responsible for numerous other business burglaries in the Devonshire Area.

On September 6, 2003, Police Officer III **Benedict Fernandes** and his partner, Police Officer I **Christopher No**, responded to a radio call of an ADW in progress. When the officers arrived at the scene of the call, the "victim", probably overjoyed to see the police, ran from the scene. Both officers then saw the "suspect" run into a pickup truck with no front or rear plates. The pickup truck also happened to be filled with items that were reasonably assumed to be stolen property. After stopping the truck and checking the VIN, the vehicle returned as Code 37, more commonly known in the world of crime novels, as a hot ride. Being meticulous in everything he does, Officer Fernandes contacted the owner of the stolen truck and had him brought to the scene. The owner identified his truck and pointed out several stolen items in it. Upon arriving with the suspect at Devonshire Station, the officers met Officer **Darryl Williams** who immediately recognized the suspect as a man wanted by detectives for several burglaries.

This is when things really started getting good. Enter now one of the greatest men to wear the badge of detective for the LAPD, Detective **Edward Dorroh**. Working closely with arresting officers,

Detective Dorroh put his superb investigative skills to work. As the investigation unfolded, Detective Dorroh completed multiple search warrants for numerous locations. With the warrants completed, our Criminal Investigation Unit came into play. This small team of dedicated individuals is responsible for warrant executions and recovery of property. Headed by Sergeant **Bruce Vermaat** and Detective **Martin Bertsch**, they lead superbly motivated officers who get the job done. The other members of the unit are Officer **Ignacio Murillo**, Officer **Marc Diamond**, Officer **Sam Sabra**, and Officer **Luke Walden**. When the series of search warrants were served, an incredible amount of stolen property, including guns and narcotics, was recovered. The officers, through superior police work, captured an individual that was wanted for numerous burglaries in the Devonshire Area as well as neighboring Divisions. The detective looked into every aspect of this case and was persistent in his investigation. Once the Criminal Investigation Unit did their thing, the case came to a conclusion. This is one of the many cases where Devonshire officers and detectives worked as a team and can be truly heralded as being the best. Our officers and detectives in Devonshire are one of the many reasons this Department is second to none! ♦

## Rotary Club Honors Officers

On Wednesday, Sept. 10, the Wilshire International Rotary Club honored Officer **Gustavo "Gus" Gutierrez** and Det. **Joshua Cho** for their commitment to the Wilshire community.

Officer Gutierrez was recognized for his heroic actions during an officer-involved shooting that occurred in June. While assigned to a footbeat, gang members ambushed Officer Gutierrez and his partners who returned fire. Their quick and decisive actions led to the arrest of three career criminals.

Det. Cho was recognized for his dedicated and tireless efforts in handling an enormous caseload, in addition to his major impact in the Korean community. His ability to read, write and speak Korean proved invaluable. After being recognized, Det. Cho delivered an exceptional acceptance speech.

Capt. **Findley** and several officers were in attendance to support the honorees.

## Megan's Law

The State Assembly extended Megan's Law to 2007. A bill that died Sept. 13th in the final legislative session would have caused the law to expire in January, 2004.

The law gives the public the right to use the telephone (900) 448-3000 or sheriff's/police station computers to obtain information from the state's database about people convicted of sex crimes.

Legislators should also consider

changes that enhance public access to the information on the Internet and additional identification of offenders.

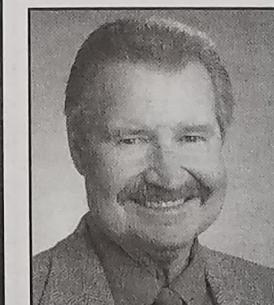
## Crime Line

Wilshire Area crime statistics year-to-date for the week ending Sept. 13, 2003: Homicide, -21.7%; Rape, 7.2%; Robbery, 19.3%; Aggravated Assault, -20.4%; Burglary, 6.6%; Auto Theft, -7.8%; Larceny, -10.0%; Violent Crime Arrests, -4.2%. ♦

**More Divisional Reporter on next page**

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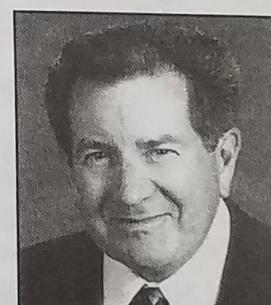
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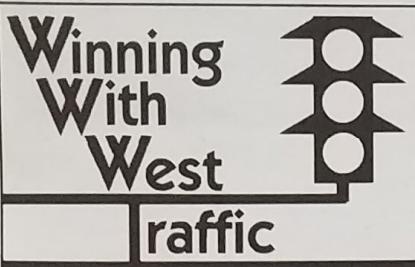
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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Tai Kingi  
West Traffic Division

### Directed Enforcement Team

West Traffic is now on board with Chief Bratton's crime fighting philosophy by implementing the new Directed Enforcement Team (DET). You may have heard about us already from Chief or Captain's mouth, and you definitely have heard of us on our frequency running those Code 10s or requesting our transportation unit. DET began as a pilot pro-



From left: Motor Officers W. Durr, M. Barocio, T. Kingi, D. Panameno, Sergeant M. Windsor, P. Sanchez, A. Castro, D. Clifford and P. Landelius.

gram in the south end, and due to its success, the Captain decided to bring us to the west end and work our magic. The unit is led by Sgt. **Mitch Windsor**, one of the most motivating sergeants on this department. And although he runs this team with high expectations, he is obviously doing something right. Sarge, you're the best! The group consists of seven dedicated motor officers with the commitment to make arrests, high visibility, saturate hot areas, and possibly clear some D.R. numbers, and as a result reduce the violent crimes in the West Bureau. Although it took a few months to get our feet wet and

Officer T. Carpenter who has brought his extensive background in gang intelligence and patrol knowledge to the team. Thanks, Officer Carpenter! We also must mention new Motor Officer **M. Barocio** who was part of the team prior to attending Motor School. He was a great help and even though it went to his big head, we know he must move on. At least he gets to move on as a Motor Officer. Although we have a lot more to accomplish, we continue to look for that big arrest and continue to do our part in fighting crime. ♦

**Clyde R. Widrig**  
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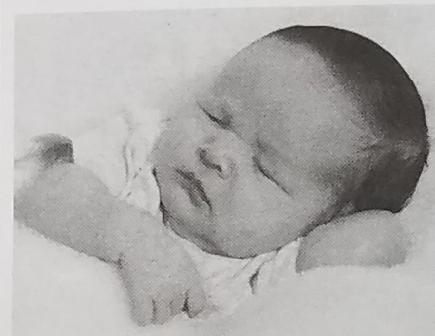
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by Lynn Hunter  
Pacific Division

Take a look at this cool customer—the newest addition to Pacific's family. Presley Quijano Eldridge, born to **James** and **Chevelle Eldridge** on Aug. 27, 2003, 8 lbs. 9 oz., 20 inches long. Handsome devil!



Lots of teamwork in September netted several robbery suspects. On Sept. 23, 2003, Officers **Kerena Rowen** and **Francisco Fuentes** handled a robbery at Trader Joe's in Pacific area. Southwest officers monitored their crime broadcast and later found the suspects, a gun, gloves, ski masks, and their vehicle. Detectives **Chuck Worthen** and **Karen Robles** responded with Lt. **Philip Fontanetta** as well as our two captains. Great job by Pacific and Southwest officers.

On Sept. 25, 2003, Officers **Joseph Terena** and **Rocio Villegas** responded to a robbery at Blockbuster Video. The store manager had followed the suspects until they ran from their vehicle. Officers **Jason Curtis** and **Victor Mares** responded to that location, and Officer **Victor Eguez** responded to another location of a possible suspect as reported by an additional witness. Sgt. **Randolph Franklin** took command. One of three possible suspects was quickly captured when the K-9 unit responded. This suspect likely had robbed another Blockbuster in North Hollywood. Another great example of teamwork.

**Joanne Usma** sent a picture of her husband, Pacific Vice's **Herman Usma** who has been activated and sent to Iraq. Joanne works for Shabby Sheik. Oops, 'scuse me—Shabby Chic. Herman is so happy to be in Iraq. The food's so bad Joanne has to send care packages, which take about three weeks to get there. Seventeen men sleep in a ten-man tent. As if that weren't enough, the tent is also occupied by a fungus. Recently it was 140 degrees and humid. Not to worry, though. It's now cooled down to 100 degrees and the sand flies are everywhere. The guys get no days off, but what would they do anyway? Go play in the sand?



Just before he got activated, Herman was assigned to Pacific Vice. He really misses his LAPD job, his wife, Joanne, and their two kids, Julianna, 13 and Austin, 8. I'm sure Pacific Vice misses Herman, too. I mean, look at him. The picture is evidence that you could put a long wig and a short skirt on him and he could pick up any guy on Lincoln Blvd.

Lots of changes this month at Pacific. Incoming are Sgt. I (from PIII) **Eugene Bedolla**; Det. I's (both from PIIIs) **Blanca Lopez** and **Silvina Ynigues**, Lt. I **Pat Hernandez**, Sgt. I **Ruby Malachi**, and PII's **Mustafa Hassanzai**, **Rene Hernandez**, and **Felipe Navarro**. Leaving us are Lt. I **Rick Wall**, Sgt. II **Gary Romo**, Sgt. I's **Timothy O'Gorman** and **Mark Lormans**, Det. I's **Paul Inabu** and **Michelle Botello**, and PII's **Jenny Escalante**, **Keith Penunuri**, **Mark Ramirez**, **Danny Odom**, **Trisha McCabe**, and **Jack Tuck**.

Also leaving us are...me. I've done my time and am getting paroled to Corona, California—retired. I'm now an old lady so I'm going to "wear purple with a red hat that does not go," and grow tomatoes. It won't be a long vacation, though. I'll be taking care of my 92-year-old grandma who in some ways is younger than I. Maybe it's her flaming red hair that just makes her look that way. We'll keep each other busy and out of trouble (or in it, knowing her). I may, however, need to return to Pacific and visit some sane people.

I'll miss the rewards this job used to offer. But mostly I'll miss the dear friends I made during the last 22 years. There is no friendship like those built "in the trenches" of a stressful job like that of a Los Angeles Police Officer. Nobody else will ever understand it, regardless of how proud of you they might tell you they are. The biggest rewards of this job come from the friendships we make among ourselves. I am very grateful for all of you who have stood by me through hot shots, hot flashes, orals, menopause, and other stressful situations, self-induced or not. Retirement can be a period where you can choose to remember only the things that make you happy and forget those that don't. My LAPD friends have given me plenty of memories to fill that bill. Thank you for that. Wave at me next time you're heading south on the 15 freeway, or stop and have a Corona.

(Editor's Note: The Board of Directors will miss Det. Hunter's monthly articles and her dedicated effort on behalf of our members as a Delegate. We wish her well and a happy and long retirement.) ♦

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# West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey  
West LA Division

In the words of the old song, "Won't you come along with meeee down the Mississippiii...?" Well, okay, how 'bout down to the parlor where you can sit and relax while reading this month's edition of *The Thin Blue Line*. Perhaps you could have a little musical soiree complete with canapés. I'd like to start out with a bloop of sorts. Officer **Bluestein** said, "Look out for number



It took 3 officers to capture this dog named Sugar. He was in the police parking lot and the dog got so scared he went to the bathroom & Chief Sharif stepped in it - oops! Look out!



Sergeant Leon Mims looking only as he can look!

camouflage motif. Yet he refused to tell us where he got it lest we all show up looking like clones next year. Sylvia in the Financial Crimes section has already placed her order for one as she used the skills she has acquired in the detectives section to track down the supplier.

West L.A. would like to say a special

on Fountain Ave. when the suspect and at least five other suspects entered the store, one carrying an "Uzi type" weapon. They asked "Where is your family?" Before the victim could respond, the suspect struck the victim in the face with the weapon. A fight ensued and led outside onto the sidewalk. All of the suspects began striking the victim. The victim broke loose and fled back into the store and told his family to call the police. The victim went back outside and the suspect began assaulting the victim again, one suspect hit him on the face with a hammer and a second suspect threw a bicycle at him, hitting him on the torso. The suspects began running in different directions. At this time, the victim and a witness began chasing the suspect and observed him enter the Subway restaurant at New Hampshire and Sunset Blvd. The employees observed the suspect run into the business with an unknown weapon and hide to the rear of the business. They also called the police.

After a comprehensive investigation, the suspect was arrested for 245(2)(1)P.C. (assault with a deadly weapon) and booked at Jail Division. The suspect is an admitted "Underground Kings" or "UGK" tagging crew. There were other suspects detained, but the victim could not identify any other suspects.

Officer Gadsby, Officer Leong, Officer Angulo, Officer Pallares and Sgt.

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one and don't step in number two!" Well those sound words of advice came a little bit too late for P3+1 "Chief" **Sharif**. The story has it that it took three officers to capture Sugar, the dog found in the police parking lot. The dog got so scared when he saw the officers in uniform that he went to the bathroom. And the "Chief" stepped right in it! Oops! Looks like Sharif forgot to bring his pooper scooper out to the parking lot with him.

I'd also like to take another look back at the beach party as I couldn't let this picture get by without all of you seeing Sgt. **Mims** in his ensemble! Yes, the hat did indeed match the shirt and shorts, and it was all done in sort of a quasi-

"hello" to Doris and **Jack Symre**, faithful readers of the *Blue Line* who now live in Sacramento. Jack was a West L.A. motor cop with serial #2365 and is still going strong. May you continue to enjoy your retirement.

These transfer lists come out way ahead of printing so I suppose it's already old news, but **Lisa Household** has come back to us. Lisa is another one who just couldn't stay away as she has been caught up in the Bermuda triangle of West L.A. **J. Kim** has joined us from Northeast as a P2 and **M. Russell** a PSW from COO. The welcome mat has definitely been extended.

Christmas is coming so it's time to start thinking about the White Elephant gift exchange, hosted by **Susan Quan**. The previous years proved to be so successful that Susan said she's looking forward to doing it again. (So are all the people who won great prizes.) Actually, the fun is in the game itself, whether you end up with a practical tool kit or a pair of practical pumps! Gifts have ranged from Disney toys and shell-enhanced picture frames all the way to Galileo thermometers and dolphin candlesticks. It's never too early to start looking for that perfect White Elephant. After all, it could be hiding under your bed. Officer Quan has also done an outstanding job planning station fund turbo-burger and Chinese luncheon days, beach parties, bake sales (hey, I think we could use one right about now), and has utilized her skills as the curator of funds during past station fund meetings. Thanks, Susan!

Gomez are to be commended for their investigative skills, teamwork, professionalism and the successful arrest of an assault with a deadly weapon suspect.

## Coming/Going/Promotions

Officer **Fernando Carrasco**, #26442, was promoted in September to the rank of sergeant. Thank goodness, because I heard he just got married, and I know he wants to spoil his new wife with all his earnings. Fernando is now supervising the streets of the North Hollywood area. Congratulations, Hubby!

Sgt. **Staats**, #25924, now is to be referred to as Det. Staats. He has shown his expertise out in the field at Northeast and will now continue in our detective unit. Officer **Robert Falconer** has been selected as the new Senior Lead Officer for 11A1's area. Congrats, Red!



"Burglary Line-One!" said as only volunteer Ruth can say it after 20 plus years.

We feel sorry for Lt. **Veenstra** who recently had to go to Maui to participate in a police kayaking race! We sincerely hope that she will make a speedy recovery!

No sooner had Officer **Jorge "Towlers" Torres** joined the J-car when they found themselves at Palisades High School where two students had challenged each other to a fistfight. One of the students started to walk away when the other decided that the fight was not quite over yet. He stabbed the victim in the back, but witnesses were able to direct the officers to the suspect's location where he was taken into custody without incident. Things have certainly changed since the days when we went to high school. The saying that, "in the end times man shall become worse and worse" certainly seems to be playing out in our schools.

Happy Thanksgiving! Don't forget the pumpkin pie. ♦

Coming to Northeast is Sgt. **Neal**, #30599, from Metro. **John Tarankow**, #27902, is returning to us from Rampart. Officer **Sanchez**, #23085, is returning from Central and Officer **Feria**, #36812, and Officer **Martinez**, #36823, are coming fresh from recruit training. Officer **Kim**, #31826, has left us for West L.A. area. *Good luck to you all!*

*Hey, I need good stories to print into the Blue Line. If you want your stories printed or if you have something to share, please leave it for me in CRO.*

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and don't forget to show your thanks to all of those that have touched your lives. This has been a very rough year for many members of our Northeast family. Please remember to stay close during the holidays coming. Thanks all! ♦

**More Divisional Reporter on page 32**

## Nothing Even Comes Close

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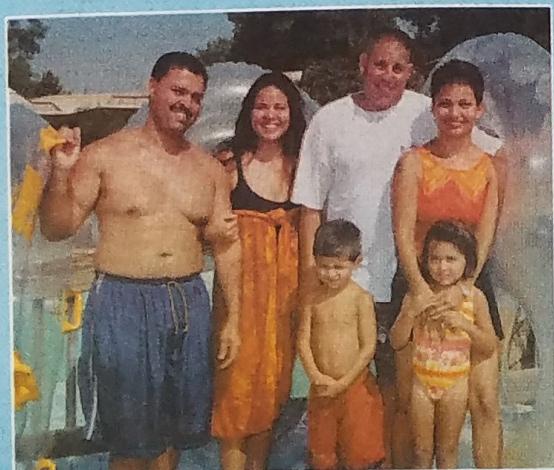
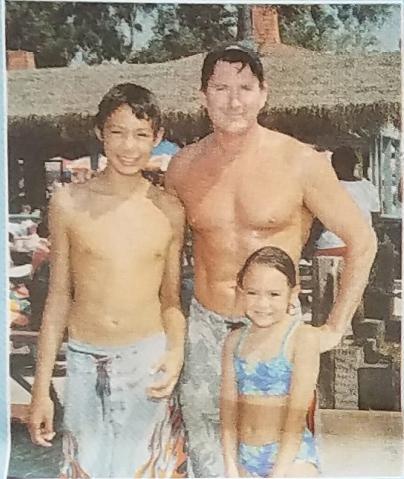
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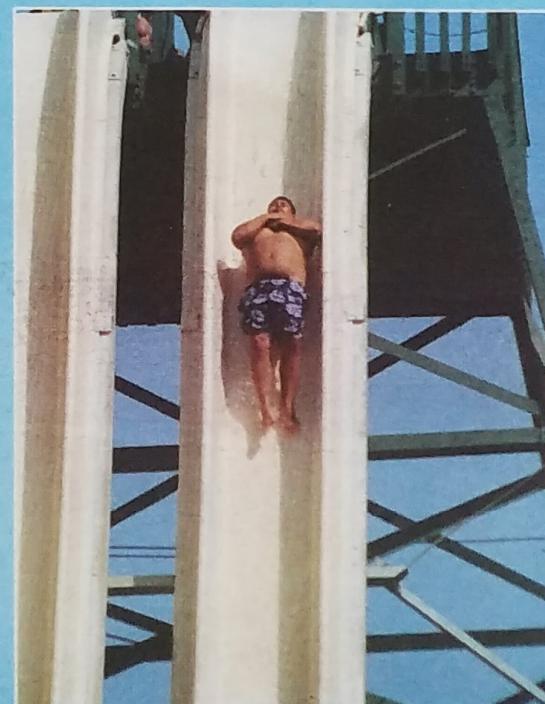
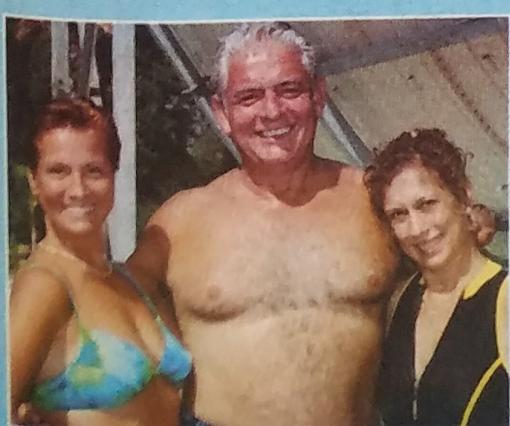
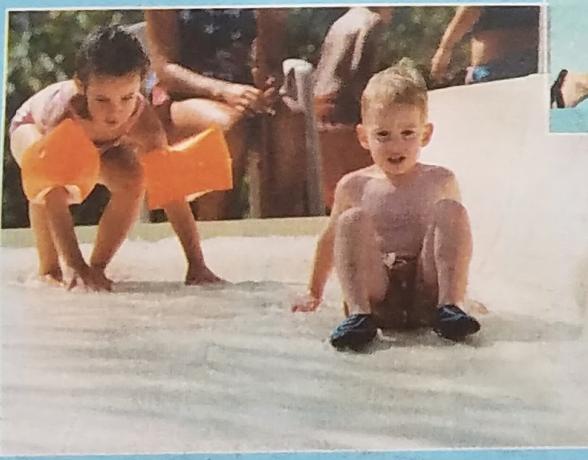
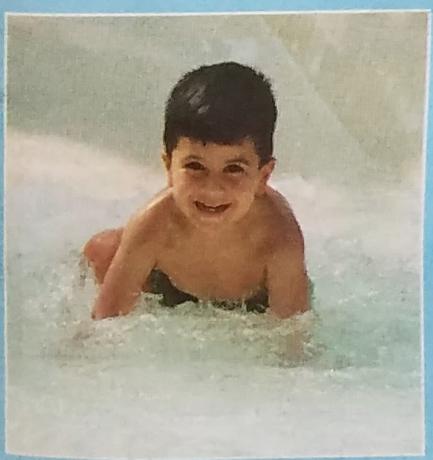
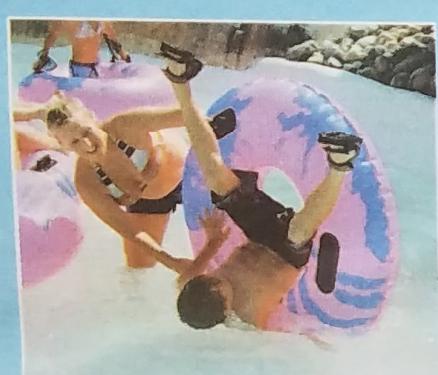
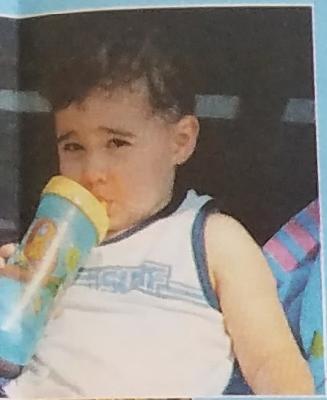
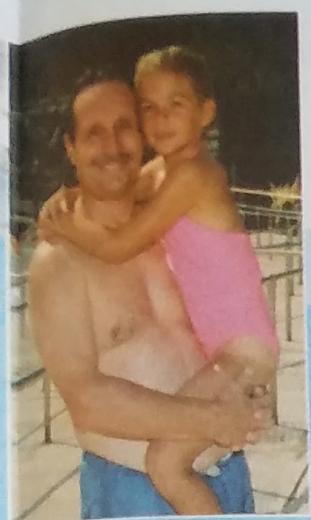
15th Annual Private Park Picnic

# Raging Waters

San Dimas, CA



Photos courtesy of Barbara Carranza



# DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Larry Wehage  
Newton Division

## Big Catch

On a recent trip to the Sierras, **Kenny Aragon** became famous. He caught an eight-pound trout at Convict Lake. Word up there says it was one of the largest fish caught in the lake without the use of dynamite.

## Reunion in 2004

Someone at the Newton picnic decided to organize a reunion picnic next year. Details were lost amidst the alcohol, but when a date is determined I will advise.

## Newton for Life

Over the years, many people arrived at Newton and never left. A few weeks ago, I checked to see who had been at Newton the longest. The four most senior are: **Jim Goodwin**, 29 years; **Sam Dobson**, 28 years; **Hugh O'Gara**, 27 years (and still a SLO on A61); and **Gloria Wood**, 20 years.

## A Needle in a Haystack

While at a mess hall in Iraq, two of our folks had the opportunity to see each other and catch up on information.



Col. Phil Karle, USMC and Staff Sgt. Kevin Scott, USA.



Colonel Phil Karle, USMC, and Staff Sergeant Kevin Scott had a great conversation.

## Jimmy's Trip

Jim Vena rode his motorcycle over seven thousand miles on a trip that took him north to Alaska. He found the time to ease into Montana and meet with Chief Pomeroy and a retired detective

eventually return to VTD.

Not long ago, Officers **Chris Rodriguez** and **Teresa Zundel** were conducting a follow up on their traffic



Teresa Zundel takes charge.

collision at West Hills Hospital. While they were at the hospital, a man was being treated for snakebite. The man informed the doctor that he was walking down the street and the snake fell out of a tree and bit him. Somehow he put the snake in an empty trashcan, placed it in the bed of his pickup truck and brought the snake to hospital with him. The doctor went out to the victim's truck, to take a look to see if the snake was poisonous. The truck happened to



Newton Explorers' Mud Run with Joe Avila.

whose name escapes me. Darned memory is beginning to fail.

## Explorer Mud Run

On September 7, 2003, Newton Street Explorers lived up to the old adage, "it's a dirty job, but someone has to do it." Fifteen of Newton's finest explorers traveled to Pitchess Honor Ranch, and participated in the 8th Annual 5-Mile Mud Run. The run, which is hosted by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, gives every participant a chance to throw mud in their best friend's face. Newton Explorers found themselves crawling, swimming, eating and many times trenching waist deep in large pools of wet slimy mud. Such obstacles did not deter them and everyone finished strong. Newton Explorers look forward to next year's run and challenge other explorers and their YSO's to come out and get dirty. Thanks to **Joe Avila** for the article.

## Baker to Vegas

The 2004 Baker to Vegas run will be held on April 24-25, 2004. Retirees, who left in good standing, can try out for the Retired Team or can run for their last Division of Assignment. **Phil Alaniz**, **Paul McConnell**, **John Paige**, **Jay Hernando**, **Jerry Wright**, **Jack Ennis**, **Dennis Scherr**, **John Olive**, and anyone else who think they can still run are

invited to try out. I threw Jerry's name in as a joke because I saw him recently and he ain't runnin'. Contact **Greg McKnight** if you are interested.

## Congrats to Frank Trevino

Frank promoted to the rank of Sergeant and transferred out of the Division. We also say farewell to **Omar Bazulto**, **Kevin Scott**, and **Isaac Moreno** (sorry Isaac, the Department apparently was not aware that you live out east, but the Valley will be good to you).

## Boxers to New York

Captain **Lizarraga**, **Ivan Guillermo**, **Gabe Gaxiola**, **Frank Diaz**, and **Rudy Barragan** flew to New York to box against New York's finest. The fellas were 2-2 against NYPD, but they did make it to a Yankees game (3rd base seats) and enjoyed the heck out of the trip. No, Captain Lizarraga did not box.

## Is It True

Is the 240-pound LASD deputy going to show up to box 175-pound **Bobby Hill** at the next LAPD-LASD match? The price to attend the boxing tournament will be worth it if the two square off.

## Contact

You can reach me at [lwehage@aol.com](mailto:lwehage@aol.com). Talk to you next month. ♦



PSR Katherine Kravitz.

named the snake "(NEED A GOOD SNAKE NAME HERE)" and animal control released it back into the wild. Maybe there will be a sequel.

I will have some good news regarding **Sgt Robert Kirk's** illness in the next issue. For those of you who don't know, Sgt Kirk was diagnosed with cancer of throat/brain tumor and has undergone chemotherapy.

We would also like to thank PSR Katherine Kravitz (aka Kazoo) for visiting our roll call and telling us about the new Valley Dispatch Center (VDC). Here she is wearing a motorcycle helmet to test how annoying and loud the call notification tone is before a hotshot. I heard she also wanted to ride the motorcycle too.

In closing, I want to remind you to keep all of our soldiers in our thoughts and prayers this Veteran's Day. I also want to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. ♦

# Voice of VTD

by Kurt Garcia  
Valley Traffic Division

Congratulations to the seven officers who graduated from motor school. In the picture (from left to right) is **Chad Dellinger**, **Tony Hotchkiss**, **Ken Snowden**, **Bill Romanelli**, **Bryce Verna**, **Brian Kelly**, and kneeling is **Tim Olsen**. They are all hard workers and will be missed. We hope they all



Motor School graduates.



#### MILITARY LIAISON PROGRAM

Officer Dennis J. DeNoi

#### DEPARTMENT OMBUDS OFFICE

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LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

PHONE (213) 473-8871  
FAX (213) 473-8864  
E-mail: 33605@lapd.lacity.org

#### MISSION STATEMENT

THE MILITARY LIAISON PROGRAM IS DEDICATED  
TO PROVIDING ENHANCED QUALITY OF  
LIFE SERVICE TO LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO ARE SERVING  
IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES RESERVES.

by Officer Dennis J. DeNoi  
Military Liaison Program

As the Military Liaison Program enters into its fourth month of serving those serving their country, many valuable lessons have been learned. Although the issues involved are not necessarily new, now we can apply the answers Department-wide and around the world. One of the primary problems that continues to cause trouble for employees reporting for extended active duty or returning from long-term military service is the proper reporting of their correct Department duty status. The root of this issue is the mishandling of military orders. The Department has become very accommodating to employees reporting for active military duty. It is understood that in many cases activated employees receive little or no warning from the military and the orders are verbal with printed orders received after the employee's report date. To this end, the Department will accept verbal orders but require official orders be forwarded as soon as possible following activation. For the Department to provide proper pay and benefits to the employee and their families, the employee must ensure that timely and accurate information regarding their military status is reported to the Divisional Timekeeper.

The Divisional Timekeeper is the key player in this sometimes complicated system. The employee's timekeeping remains the responsibility of the division of assignment at the time of activation. However, it is common practice and is recommended that the employee send courtesy copies of orders to Fiscal Operations Division, Personnel Division and the Military Liaison Officer. Many of the other difficulties faced by departing and returning personnel are a direct or indirect result of improper communication with timekeepers, usually at the Divisional level. The timekeepers are doing an outstanding job and a majority of the employees are getting paid properly. Take the extra time to ensure your correct duty status is being reported and you will reduce the burden on yourself and your family. Speaking of orders, most of the employees that have shipped out or returned from active military duty over the past two years have probably dealt with Senior Clerk Typist **Edwin Grover**, Military Orders Clerk at Personnel Records in Parker Center. I would predict that, if asked, most would say Edwin went above and beyond the call of duty when handling their cases. I have relied on Edwin's can-do attitude on countless cases when solving employees' problems associated with military service. Edwin has accepted a new assignment at Continuing Education Division and his professional work ethics will be surely missed by all those serving in the guard

and reserve. However, the good news is we now have Senior Clerk Typist **Vickie Wong**. I have been working with Vickie during the transition and both Edwin and I are confident you will remain in good hands. Thanks for a job well done and best wishes to Edwin and welcome aboard Vickie.

#### Marking Time?

We recently worked on a very challenging case involving an employee's reserve activation time versus time on the Department and time in patrol. This issue is addressed in a federal law entitled, "Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act" (USERRA). When Police Officer II **Victor Lopez** returned from over 20 months of military activation with the Marines as a Scout Sniper in Iraq, he wanted to resume his career without being penalized for doing his civic duty. Think back to all the personal, family and Department experiences you have had the opportunity to take part in during the past two years. Officer Perez and others like him have been denied these associations, both the pleasant and not so pleasant. It was Perez's desire to return to his aggressive pursuit of his police career in a specialized crime suppression unit. He set his sights on an opening in a Gang Enforcement Detail (GED). However, Special Order No. 27, dated July 10, 2003, requires minimum time periods for both the number of years on the job and time spent in patrol. Perez would have had more than the time required if Uncle Sam had not had higher needs for his services. With only a few days warning before the scheduled orals, we had to get a City/Department interpretation of the USERRA and how it relates to this issue. Several entities were brought into this case including the Commanding Officer, Consent Decree Task Force, Captain **Scott Kroeber**. It was determined that time spent on military activation, "counts the same as if the employee was here at work." This case has many other elements that I won't go into now, but Officer Perez oralized and was one of the candidates selected to fill the coveted vacancies in the GED. Congratulations to Officer Perez and my hat is off to all involved in this important case. Captain Kroeber deserves special thanks, as he took this case on as a personal project and ensured we met the deadline and that an accurate ruling was made.

#### Reintegration Training, "Already on the Firing Line"

When **any** Department employee returns to duty following an extended absence, they must undergo a complete training review by their commanding officer and training coordinator per Special Order No. 11, dated May 21, 2001. Each employee's case is reviewed and the reintegration training is tailored to the individual's specific needs. Sworn personnel must be re-certified with their duty weapon by attending a firearms review, pass a duty weapons manipulation test, and re-qualify on the Combat Qualification Range. The point of contact for the firearms training is Officer **Kemp Fairbanks**, Davis Training Facility at (818) 832-3746.

#### Excess Department Vacation

If you were on extended active military duty prior to January 1, 2003, you may have lost some Department annual vacation time and you should receive a letter from League Treasurer **Tim Sands**, identifying you as a possible "Grievant" regarding this issue. If you receive this notification or know that you lost vacation time due to mil-

itary service, you must contact Mr. Sands prior to November 4, 2003. However, should you miss this deadline, contact him anyway and explain your situation. Mr. Sands is working with the Department to ensure that any employee who lost vacation time due to service to their country will be properly compensated. It is imperative that you review your vacation time and report any lost hours as soon as possible. The above situation could be repeated in January 2004. All currently activated employees or employees that anticipate active military service, should review their vacation balance and take appropriate action. If you are called to active military duty in the future, you must sell any excess or anticipated excess vacation prior to activation, per Chief of Support Services Notice dated March 31, 2003, entitled "Military Leave and Compensation for Vacation Time." Remember that proper planning on your part will reduce any undue burden on you and your family.

As you can see, there is no shortage of work for me to do on your behalf and I find myself "dug-in" at my desk more than I would like. So it was a nice surprise when two old partners, Officer **Roberto Morales** and Officer **Fernando Salcedo** of Northeast Division stopped by the Ombuds office to see me. They had a photo of an officer and the son of another officer that are currently pulling duty in Baghdad, Iraq. They wanted to know if I could give a "Shout out" to them and to let them know the Division and Department are proud of them. The photo shows Officer **Thomas DeLucia** (left) and Mike Perez, Jr. (right), son of

Detective Mike Perez, Sr., standing in front of a building that was the location of recent "Shots Fired" and a possible 459. Remember, if you or another Department employee you know, has a question or is in need of assistance with issues related to being a member of the Armed Forces Reserve, please contact me at the Ombuds Office, (213) 473-8871, or e-mail me at 33605@lapd.lacity.org. At the time this article was written, the total number of Department personnel currently serving on active military duty was 115. Approximately 24 employees either report to active duty or return from active duty every two weeks.



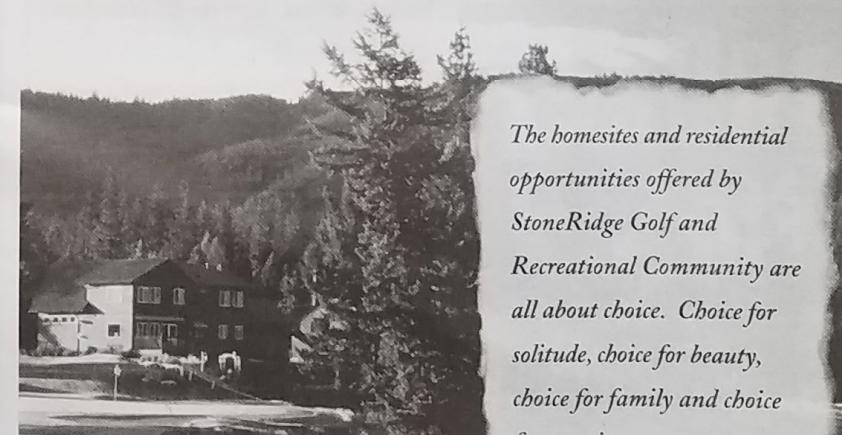
Officer Thomas DeLucia (left) and Mike Perez Jr. (right), son of Detective Mike Perez Sr., standing in front of a building that was the location of recent "Shots Fired" and a possible 459.

**WANTED:** Photographs and video clips of LAPD employees that have been activated during this crisis or others dating back to the first gulf war. The photographs, videos and other material will be used in a future video of our employees serving our nation around the world in times of national crises. ♦

#### More Divisional Reporter on next page

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# DIVISIONAL REPORTER

## CENTRAL



by Marie Kardiban  
Central Division

### Christmas Party

Mark your calendars for this year's spectacular party. The festivities will be held at the Los Angeles Marriott Downtown on December 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 p.m. until? See **Tricia Hauck** in Detectives for ticket information or call her at 485-2671. Don't miss out, as tickets are limited.

### Picnic Fun

As special thanks go to everyone who contributed to the success of the picnic which was held at the Elysian Park Academy on September 27<sup>th</sup>. This year's event was a luau theme and was as usual a fun-filled day. Special recognition goes out to PSR's **Priscilla Chavez** and **Kathy Susim** of the Problem Solving Unit for once again doing a wonderful job!! We appreciated all their hard work and effort in making the picnic a huge success and a wonderful day for Central personnel and their families.

### LA Triathlon

I guess running the LA Marathon was not enough for Central Area's endurance athletes, **Jason Malik** and **Kris Werner**. Jason and Kris completed the LA Triathlon on Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>. These guys swam 1500 meters (a little under a mile) in the chilly ocean waters off Venice Beach. After emerging from the surf, they jumped on their bikes and cycled from Venice to Downtown, a distance of 40 kilometers (about 25 1/2 miles). They fin-



ished up the Triathlon with a 10K (6.2 miles) run through the hills by the Police Academy. Great job guys!

### Good Car Capers

On 8-23-03 at approx 2345 hrs, Ofc's **Pettinato** #35704 and **Marquez** #32875 were patrolling in the area of Everett St. and Beaudry St., an area S/O of Dodger Stadium. A witness who stated that he had observed a charcoal gray Lexus IS300 with paper plates stop next to his Lexus IS300 approached them. The occupants of the gray Lexus appeared to be looking into the witness' vehicle. The gray Lexus then left. Ofc's Pettinato and Marquez recalled hearing a Newton crime broadcast from the day before where a gray Lexus was carjacked. Shortly after talking with the witness, ofc's observed a gray Lexus with paper plates traveling E/B Sunset Blvd. towards Beaudry St. After pulling in behind the vehicle, the officer observed the passenger make furtive movements toward the center console of the vehicle to conceal something. The officers conducted a stop and detained the occupants. The drive was an admitted 18<sup>th</sup> St gang member. A VIN check of the vehicle revealed that it was the wanted carjack vehicle from Newton Division. During a search of the vehicle, officers recovered brass knuckles and a replica firearm that was actually a cigarette lighter. The driver was arrested for carjacking and the passenger was

tions with their recall of a previous crime broadcast to make two solid felony arrests.

On 8-26-03, Officers **Hernandez**, Serial No. 34281 and **Gil** Serial No. 36036 observed a gold Dodge Stratus traveling W/B 7<sup>th</sup> St. passing Broadway without headlights during hours of darkness. Officer conducted a traffic stop and quickly observed that the passenger was looking over his shoulder at them and attempted to hide something between the front seats. Upon contact with the driver, Officer Hernandez observed that the driver's window had been smashed and that there was glass on the front floorboard and behind the driver's seat. Both occupants were asked to exit the vehicle for further investigation. The driver stated that he had borrowed the car, but he did not know the owner's name, where he lived, or his phone number. The driver and passenger both displayed objective symptoms of being under the influence of PCP. During a search of the vehicle, officers recovered what appeared to be marijuana from between the seats, a vial of what appeared to be PCP from the passenger's door, a digital scale with what appeared to be narcotics residue. Both occupants were arrested, the driver for 487(D)PCP-GTS and the passenger for 11350 HS. Possession of Controlled Substance. While in enroute to the station, the deft was fidgety with his hands behind his

back. As he exited the police vehicle at the station, officers recovered a film canister that the passenger had apparently been hiding in his backside and had attempted to dump in the back of the police vehicle. The canister contained numerous off white solids resembling rock cocaine. The passenger was arrested for 11351.5 HS. To top it off, during a pre-booking search of the driver at the station, officers recovered photocopies of (2) \$20 bills and (1) \$100 bill. A thorough investigation by these officers resulted in the recovery of a stolen vehicle, multiple illegal narcotics, counterfeit currency and the arrest of two felons. Good Job!

On 9-03-03 at approx. 2030 hours, an LAPD airship began receiving a LOJACK hit on a 98 Ford Mustang in the area of Sunset St. and Beaudry St. and he requested the assistance of a LOJACK equipped blk/wht unit. Officer **Amador** Serial No. 27100, K9-13 was LOJACK equipped and responded along with a Mid-PM watch Unit 1Z34, Officer Marquez Serial No. 32975 and Pettinato Serial No. 34704. Officer Amador was able to pinpoint the hit to 946 Everett Street. Officer Marquez, Pettinato, and Amador confirmed that the vehicle was to the rear of the location. The vehicle had been carjacked in Newton Division. After conferring with detectives, they chose to set up surveillance on the vehicle to see if they could get the carjack suspect. End of Watch came and officers turned over the surveillance to day watch officers. Eventually, the vehicle left the location followed by officers. After a short pursuit, the driver was taken into custody. The driver was not the described individual in the carjacking, however he gave information that would lead police to the right guy. Further investigation of the carjacking suspect revealed that he is also possibly a wanted 211 suspect. The perseverance of officers and the cooperation between watches as well as K9 and the airship allowed for the arrest of one felony suspect and will lead to the arrest of another. Good Job!

Special thanks to Officer **Randy Blancq** for his write up on the Good Car Capers.

## PRDeez Notes

by Adam N. Broderick  
Planning and Research Division

### H & G's (hi's and good-byes)

In September we bid farewell to PADS Lieutenant **Phil Trotter**. We sent an envelope around the office and collected enough money to send him on a vacation to Italy. OK, so maybe he paid for his own trip. This didn't stop us from trying to give him a great send-off though. The clerical staff did an amazing job of transforming the SPU office into an authentic Italian restaurant, complete with flowers, dimmed lights and mood music playing softly in the background. The LT's granddaughter was there for the festivities and was more than willing to help her "papa" open his gifts. Everyone had a great time and we here at PRD wish Lieutenant Trotter all the best.

Incoming to PADS in DP 10 was Officer **Nadine Hernandez**. At her

request, this info is on the DL (down low).

### Other Stuff

One of PRD's beloved (well...maybe be-liked) sergeants celebrated his 20-year mark recently. And how did he celebrate you ask...by causing quite a commotion during pistol qualification. I



Still accepting tips.

don't know about 1983, but nowadays you gotta wear ear protection while on the range. And that big semi-auto just seems to get more confusing the older you become. It might be time to dust off that old-school revolver. It's simple to use, just point and click. Happy Anniversary Sergeant **Thomas**. Oops, I mean, Sergeant Anonymous.

We celebrated several September birthdays with a potluck/BBQ at PRD-West. The parking lot was thick with



Chef B, Capt. M., Asst. Chef Palazzolo.

smoke from the carne and pollo asada cooking on the grill. The scent must have wafted over to PRD-East at PAB because it didn't take long for them to show up in force. By the time *The PRD Grill* closed, everyone walked away with full bellies and heavy eyelids. Did someone say "siesta"?

Sergeant **Dino Duran** is completely out of control and it's contagious. His passion for all things fighting has trickled down to Officers **Schatz** and **Broderick**. They're now enrolled in self-defense classes through Krav Maga Long Beach (kravmagalb.com). For those that don't know, Krav Maga is Hebrew for "contact combat". Dino is proud of his guys and encourages everyone to improve their self-defense skills.

You never know when your day to dance will arrive. Stay tuned for pictures...

### Mysteries Revealed

The Special Projects Unit (SPU) is one of several small units here at PRD-West. One of their responsibilities is researching and coordinating the field testing of gadgets and gizmos designed to make our jobs easier and safer. Some projects in the works include the in-car video program, tire deflation devices, and hand-held fingerprinting computer-type thingamajigs.

### New Daddy Alert

Officer **Ron Lee** is the proud papa of twin baby girls. That pushes the total mini-Lee count to 3. Will someone please tell him that doesn't equate to double the bonding leave? Rumor has it he doesn't plan return until 2005.

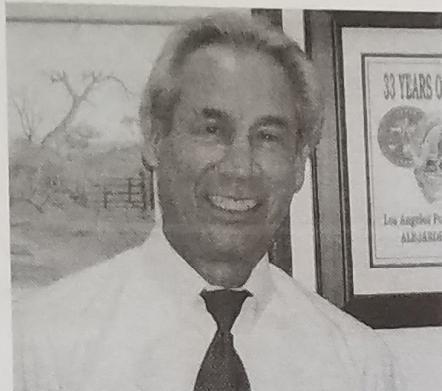
### Recruitment Drive

The holidays are fast approaching. We here at PRD are off, how 'bout you? It's just one more reason to apply. Stop by or call us at (213) 485-2633. Gobble!

Until next time...C-ya.

# Juvenile Journal

by James Johnson  
Juvenile Division



Alex Rosales



Tina Bennett

Greetings from Juvenile Division. We are spread across all four geographic Bureaus, with detectives and officers ready to take on many concerns that affect the children of Los Angeles. When I first came to Juvenile Division two months ago, I noticed the large number of tenured detectives in the division, the expertise that they hold, and the difficult job that most of them have to perform everyday. It takes a special ability to deal with cases involving children.

Congratulations to Detective III **Alex Rosales** who just celebrated 33 years on the job, 22 of them spent in Juvenile Division! Detective III **Greg Stahr** and Detective III **Jim Brown** both celebrated their 30-year job anniversaries. Detective I **Retha Camp** just passed her 20-year milestone.

Juvenile Division is like a big family and when one of our members is expecting a new baby we party. Captain **Sharyn**

important task of reporting the STD news. P2+2 **Harold Hills**, SCO is back from hand surgery and will be resuming the duties of shuffling subpoenas.

Welcome to P2 **Alfonso Menchaca**, who transfers in from Devonshire Div.

## Retirements

Aug 9th 2003 Motor Officer **Baby Burns** Serial # 21315 had a memorable retirement at the Westin Hotel. Motor Officer Ed Burns gave 28 years of dedicated service to the city of Los Angeles. Most of the motors had a chance to work with this seasoned stellar Officer, who was assigned to Southeast Division area. When you heard, "18MARY 11", you had no doubt as to who was at the other end of the helmet Mic. "Baby Burns" We wish you a well-deserved retirement.

## Military

Do we have an RD map for Bagdad, Iraq? BCMC P2+2 **Bobby Casteel** will have to find out for himself. Bob and his Army Reserve CID unit have been deployed for over a year and will continue to be deployed in Bagdad, Iraq. Myself and a few of the Deuce watch officers continue to stay in contact with Bob and his family. They tell us that he is doing fine and can't wait to get home to his family. Bob has told us he is looking forward to returning work riding his Police motor and writing tickets.

We wish him an early and safe return. Making a safe return from military duty is officers P2+2 **John Dalbey** and CI Sgt. **Gary Levy**.

## Events

Reminder! Get your tickets for our annual Holiday party. Saturday, December 6th.

This year's grand event will be held at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel Los Angeles Airport.

See Sgt. **Janice Hart**, training coord. for further details.

by Rudy Baca  
South Traffic Division

## Promotions

Believe it or not, good things come to those who wait. We have proof of that.

P3 Officer "Mean Gene Dancing Machine" **Bedolla** has been promoted to the honorable rank of Sergeant. As you can tell by now Officer Bedolla, whoop! I mean Sergeant Bedolla will not be writing the monthly *Blue Line* divisional report. He has promoted and transferred to Pacific Division. We want Gene to know that he will be missed. Gene was a leader in assembling our lightning fast Baker to Vegas running team, Holiday parties and fundraisers. An overall morale-raising and dedicated officer here at STD.

Our divisional red light program has been a very effective program. Thanks to Gene, who was in charge of the program. P-3 **Ruben Mendoza** will fill the position with the same dedication and professionalism. Congratulation Sgt. Bedolla.

## Divisional Ins & Outs

Welcome to P2 **Alfonso Menchaca**, who transfers in from Devonshire. Congratulations to Officer of the Quarter, Deuce watch team leader P2+2 **Gary Current**. Motor Sgt-1+2 **Charles Johnson**'s outstanding accomplishments have not gone unnoticed as he has been recognized as Sergeant of the Quarter!

I, P2+2 **Rudy Baca** will take over the

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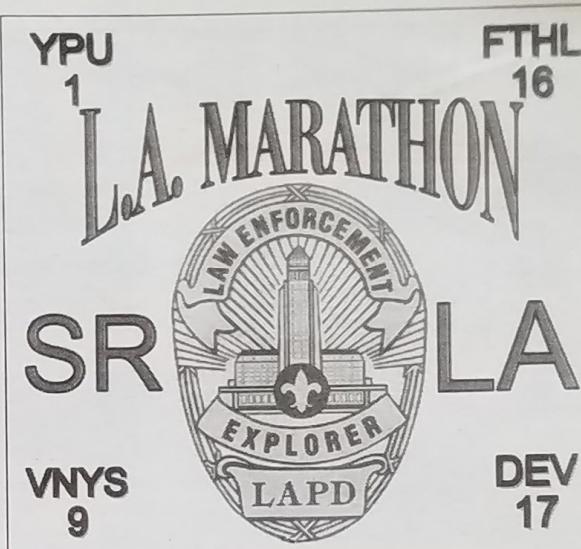
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Juvenile Division would like to welcome **Mark Carmona**, **Juan Perez**, **Bibi Shapiro**, **Mark Pursel**, **Retha Camp**, **Mike Skiff**, **Todd Waymire**, **Rose Marie Ledesma-Gaeta**, **Enrique Conrado**, **Loretta Smith**, and **Jim Johnson**. Juvenile is proud to see two of our P-III's promote to detective. **Steve Castro** made Detective at North Hollywood and **Lizette Makarenko** made detective at Rampart.

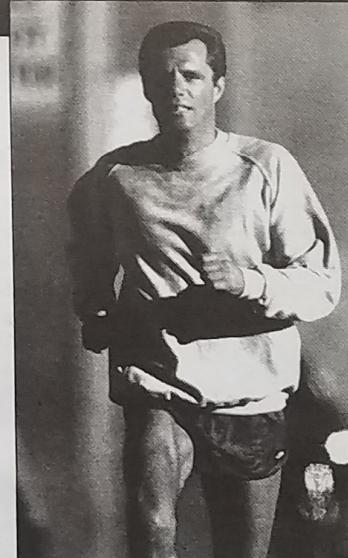
Under the direction of Officer **Joel Frias**, in the Juvenile Division Youth Programs Unit, the Foothill, Van Nuys and Devonshire Area Explorer programs trained rigorously for six months to prepare themselves for the 2003 Los Angeles Marathon. There were a total of twenty Explorers who started the training program, under the guidance of "Students Run For Los Angeles" (SRLA) running club. Sixteen of those youths participated in the challenging marathon. Officer **Joel Frias**, Officer **Ingrid Langrehr** (Devonshire Division), and Officer **Lydia Grzelkowska** (Van Nuys Division) all assisted and participated with the youths during the 6 months of training and gradually increasing runs. It should be mentioned that this was the second time in the history of L.A.P.D. that the Explorer program

was involved in running the L.A. Marathon. The Foothill Area Explorers were the first Explorer group to ever run in the Marathon in 2002. The main goal of these Explorers was to be able to conquer and complete a most demanding goal. Thank you to all the parents and volunteers for your support! Congratulations Explorers for achieving your goal! There are 45 Explorers that have begun their training for the 2003-2004 season. Good luck on this year's training for the 2004 L.A. Marathon!



More Divisional Reporter on next page

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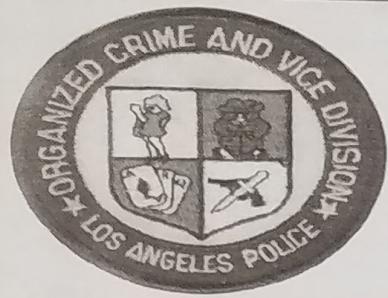
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# DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Officer D'Angelo  
Organized Crime and Vice Division

## Promotions Coming and Going

Congratulations and best wishes to Detective **Elva Soriano**. She has been promoted to Detective and found herself solving cases in 77th Division. Elva will be seriously missed, although we know as fast as she left she will return just as fast.

Welcome backs are in order for the Community Problems Unit, Detective II **Mary Dyer**. Mary has been gone for several months now, due to a surgery. It's amazing that the unit has held together as long as it has without this fearless leader. The mother of Abatements. Glad to see you back Mary.

Welcomes are also in order for our new Vice arrivals. Detective I **Dondee**

**Stout**, Detective I **Victor Salguero**, and last but definitely not least Officer **Conce Donegan**.

## Commendable Capers

Congratulations are in order for the Community Problems unit. Especially, Officer III **Ryuichi Ishitani**. Officer Ishitani along with the Vice unit recovered an astonishing 9.7 million dollars in counterfeit goods during a Multi-7 location Search Warrant in Central Division. This investigation resulted in a Multi-5 arrest.

This isn't the first recovery for the counterfeit expert. He has recovered an astonishing \$13,629,825.00 in counterfeit goods since his arrival in March of 2003. Due to Officer Ishitani's expertise, he is now teaching Counterfeit Merchandising, in the 40-hour Vice school.

## Guys get your eyeglasses out!

O.C.V.D. in particular Captain **Vance Proctor**, along with Deputy City Attorney Greenberg, Asha received a surprising unanimous 13-0 vote from the City Council passing a 6ft-ordinance law in Strip Clubs. The vote was expected to receive appeals from some of the City Council, that was until O.C.V.D. provided video footage and Officer Declarations describing the explicit activities inside the locations. ♦

coupe is actually a French four-wheeled horse drawn carriage. Since we don't see many horse drawn carriages on the streets of LA, Captain **Smith** made the command decision that we would utilize the American term coupe on the radio.

## Great Job

Sergeant II **Greg Allen**, an Assistant Watch Commander, recently made Communications Division very proud when he finished Number 1 on the Lieutenants test. Although we will lose him at Communications some, division will get a great lieutenant and supervisor.

Communications would like the thank Chief **Athena Yerganian** who stepped in as the Chief Information Officer. She worked closely with Communications Division and the Department Command Post. Her ideas, suggestions, and directives have made Communications more effective unit. In spite of being many miles from home and her business; she gave her all to improving LAPD.

## Valley Communications Dispatch Center (VCDC)

The VCDC opened its doors to 128 employees on September 23. The implementation of the VCDC was transparent to officers and was completed with no technical difficulties. Early reports are that the sworn and civilian assigned to the Valley really like their new building



Women of the Department Command Post. Left to right: Marian Bausley, Melissa Munguia-Agnew, Sergeant Stella Lara, Candice Duke, Mary Gomez, and Laura Villegas.

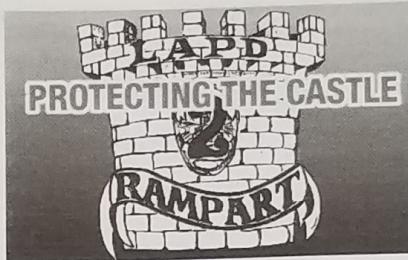
and the locale. Many of our valley folks now have shorter compute times. The VCDC started out very busy. They are handling approximately 2,100 telephone calls per day and Metro Dispatch Center about 7,000. This volume of telephone calls compares to a typical Southern California Dispatch Center handling only 100 to 200 calls per day.

## Is It A Coupe or a Coupe

PSR's have utilized the French term *coupé* when describing a vehicle coupe/sedan. Our research revealed that a

## Good Bye and Thank You

Sergeant **Adam O'Neill** came to Communications in May. He was unceremoniously transferred to Communications from the beach detail in Pacific Division just before the start of Summer. Sergeant O'Neill grew to love Communications and became quite good at handling the multitude of personnel issues. Sergeant O'Neill was a welcome addition to Communications and we wish him well as he transfers to his new assignment in Personnel Group. ♦



by Tony Fitzsimmons  
Rampart Division

## Road to Recovery

Last month, the Rampart family held a BBQ fund-raiser to benefit one of its own. P2 **Martin Franco**, last year's *Officer of the Year* for Rampart, has been diagnosed with cancer and is taking medications to overcome the disease. Rampart raised money to assist the Franco family with medical expenses. Through thick and thin, good times and bad, Rampart has been known to stick together and take care of its extended family. Martin, you know we're here for you, bro...we'll get you back out there and back on the wheels of steel...two turntables and a microphone!

## Congrats

We've got a pack of newly promoted 3's to congratulate at Rampart. **Justin Stewart, Chris Razo, Matt Ziegler** and



Justin Stewart and Chris Razo before their stripes.

**John Pultz** earned their stripes along with **Rene January**. With you guys leading the pack, we're in for lots of bumps, bruises and tons of fun! We also had some movement over at Detectives...**Jimmy Erwin** promoted and officially joined the Homicide table. **Louie Velasquez** also made DI status. New DII's **Johnny Hernandez** and **Matt Phelps** are really bringin' home the bucks now! On a different note...P2 **Danny Arrona** finally tied the knot with his long-time sweetheart Christa! Yep, Danny A-R-R-O-N-A...it wasn't a typo, guys!

## Stand Tall, Stand Proud

For the first time in many years, Rampart held a formal divisional inspection. We all spit-shined our gear and stood proud as Chief Bratton saw first hand the finest division in the city. Led by the tight uniform presence of P2 **Ralph Camarillo**, Rampart was definitely a cut above the rest. Even P2 **Abel Munoz** was eager to show off his freshly cleaned and oiled duty weapon.



Rampart getting ready for their photo shoot!

Good Job, guys! With the plans of building a new station, we had what may have been our final inspection at the original *Rampart Division*. Our Chief gave a grand 'ole message to the troops, addressed the media, and put an end to rumors concerning a name change to our Division. Chief Bratton announced, "*Rampart will keep its name...*" and the troops sounded in a loud round of applause!

## Takin' Back Alvarado

A newly designed task force at Rampart has been formed to conquer the crime-infested Alvarado Corridor. With Z units on each watch, Vice, Bikes, SPU and SEU on the prowl...no street predator is safe from the hooks of a Rampart copper. Led by Lt. **Eisenberg**, the *Alvarado Task Force* is dedicated to rid the area of graffiti, robberies, narcotic/gang activity and the ever-so-popular street vendor. We'll keep you posted on our success and the foot pursuits of the "415 street vendor with a bacon hot dog!"

## Got Tapia?

As Danny Tapia stood on the sidewalk eating some tacos from a nearby street vendor, two Rampart coppers we're rounding the corner on routine patrol. As the coppers eyed Tapia, he threw his tacos in the air and the foot chase was on. Tapia, a member of the notorious 18th street gang, has okie-doked a few coppers in his day...yet, today belonged to **Rampart**. With a quick hop, skip and a jump Tapia leaped over cars, fences and through houses to elude police capture. Due to a quick perimeter, dedicated Rampart teamwork, and a fearless Metro K9...Tapia was found hiding behind a piece of plywood like a whipped little puppy. With tactically sound and motivated officers, Rampart captured a wanted 18th streeter who had been hiding out for months. Guess he lost the Rampart Lottery this time.

## Dope, Money, Guns

Rampart's *Gun Detail* (P3's **Ornelas, Heredia, Gomez, Frus, Stewart** and **Guyer**) was formed not too long ago and is under the watchful eye of DII **Joe Harris**. Big Stewie and his good 'ole partner Bobo recently put together a nifty caper with the aid of ATF. In the midst of a thorough investigation, the guys served a search warrant with the assistance of Rampart SPU and SEU. In the end, four drug dealers lost their dope, money, and guns, then were hauled off to the Glass House by LAPD's finest. Who needs SWAT when you got Ike with the ram and GoGo on point?!

## Tactic Tip

There are no absolutes in tactics, but there are absolutely things you must do. At the end of every Rampart caper, a *debrief* is a solid learning tool for all officers involved. Even a tenured copper can learn a thing or two from discussing the outcome of an incident. Remember to humble yourself and take advice from your peers...cuz' you're only as good as your last caper! ♦

# NoHo news

by Angie Hougen  
North Hollywood Division

## PALS Banquet

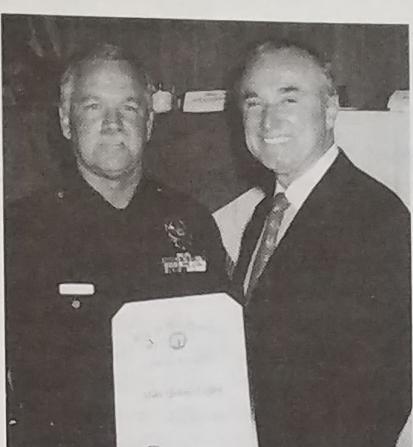
Our Annual PALS Banquet was a great success. Attended by over 300 people, with a keynote address from Chief Bratton, it was a great way for PALS to thank the honorees. Our Officers of the Month for October 2002 to September 2003 are as follows: October 2002- **Matthew Garza**, November 2002- **Roy Guthrie**, December 2002- **Frank Kryshak**, January 2003- **Miguel Mejia**, February 2003- **Thomas Bangasser**, March 2003- **Esther Vasquez**, April 2003-



Roy Guthrie, Mike Jensen and Frank Kryshak.

**Anthony Escobar**, May 2003- **William Martin**, June 2003- **Gabriel Subia**, July 2003- **Geno Ferone**, August 2003- **Alan Hammond**, September 2003- **John Catalano**.

The Detectives were also well represented at the luncheon. Congratulations to all our Detectives of the quarter: 4th Quarter 2002- **Harry Stirwalt**, 1st Quarter 2003- **Dave Friedrich**, 2nd Quarter 2003- **Mark Pursel**, and 3rd Quarter- **Michael Paris** and **Eric Peltier**.



Detective of the Year - Mike Coffey, with the Chief.

**Bill Dumong** was honored as the Reserve of the Year. Chief Bratton also congratulated Dumong for 30 years of service to the Reserve program, and gave him his 30-year pin. **Vicky Keoseian** is our Civilian of the Year. In addition to her duties in the Captain's Office, she is busy planning our Holiday Party, planned for Friday, December 5th, at the Airtel Hotel.

Finally, our Officer and Detective of

the Year are two North Hollywood mainstays. **Mike Jensen** is a hardworking Senior Lead Officer, who has earned the respect of his peers, as well as the community members he serves. **Mike Coffey** brings out the best in those around him, and his work ethic and experience are second to none.

## Baby News

**Oscar Iturralde** and his wife Stephanie are enjoying their new baby daughter, Olivia Taylor Iturralde. She



Little Olivia Iturralde.

was born on September 15th, and looks just like her big brother Alex. Congratulations to the growing Iturralde family! ♦

# 77th All American Division

by Maria C. Marquez  
77th Street Division

## Stop the Clock

77th Street average response time has been 8.5 minutes. This is the lowest in the city, and 77th Street is the only area



Officer Debbie Luker and Officer Tami Baumann getting a quick fix of java before the next C2-high.

with a response time under nine minutes. This is especially remarkable in light of the fact that 77th Street handles more emergency calls for service in South Bureau. Outstanding job!

## Fore...I mean Four

Of our finest golfers, namely **Pete Casey**, **Billy Driver**, **Greg Garcia**, and **Dave Hance**, recently won the Inter-Divisional Golf Tournament at the Santa Anita golf course in Arcadia. They previously won at the Rustic Canyon Golf Tournament, which allowed them to participate in the championship game in Arcadia. It should also be noted that Greg Garcia (for the second time) won the lowest net score trophy. Congratulations to all of you.

## Seniors in the House

Our divisional athletes for the month are some of our favorite seniors: Sgt. **Billy Driver** and Det. **D. C. Webb**. As two of our elderly lifters in the bench press competition, it shows the younger generations that age makes no difference when you play like a true team member. Fight on!

## Agast Continues to Take the Wind Out of the Criminal Element

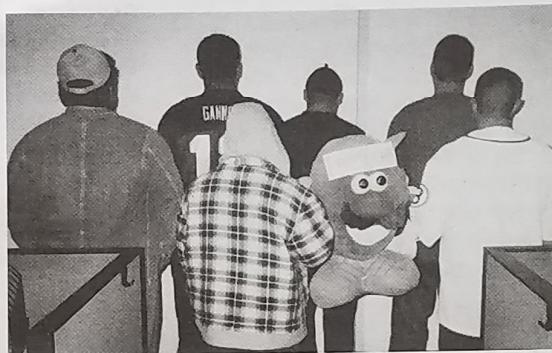
This specialized unit continues to get

better as the months go on. They have been a great help to our detectives when it comes to picking up our felony wanted suspects. Patrol, of course, has to get involved since they cannot blow their cover, and that is a good thing! It can get pretty dangerous at times! But that's what makes it fun. I was finally able to get a photo of all of them. Some blinked and were able to make themselves invisible, but those remaining were not quick enough.

## 77th Street Opens Its Doors

On Sept. 20, 77th Street hosted its annual open house. Over 200 community members were treated to a barbecue and had the opportunity to view some outstanding displays from various entities within the department. Thanks to all of you who gave up your Saturday to assist us with this day.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you and yours. Stay safe. ♦



Senior Lead Officer Gary Verge with his baby girl, Madisyn.

**More Divisional Reporter on next page**

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# DIVISIONAL REPORTER

## VAN NUYS Happenings

by Lydia C. Grzelkowska  
Van Nuys Division

### RECENT EVENTS

On September 9, Van Nuys Officer **Jeff Coles** and North Hollywood Officer **Andrew Kukla** went for an evening motorcycle ride in the High Sierras. When they did not return, a search was initiated for them by their camping companions and by Tulare County Sheriff's Office. The search continued for two additional days, until the officers were located when they walked out of the wilderness area. Apparently, the officers had become disoriented and ran out of gas. They abandoned their motorcycles and attempted to hike out of the area. Chief **Bergmann** responded to the search base to provide a liaison between the Department and the Tulare County Sheriff's Department. Approximately 30 off-duty officers responded to assist in the search. Jeff and Andrew, we are so glad that you're both safe!

### Well Wishes

**Jim Rigney** is at the Pomona Hospital recovering from major surgery. You are in our thoughts and prayers buddy. Get well soon, we miss you dearly.

### Copper Capers

A male suspect, carrying a newspaper under his arm, entered miscellaneous businesses for the purpose of robbery. The suspect would approach the cashier, remove a handgun concealed in the newspaper and demand money from the register. The suspect was dubbed, "The Read Between the Lines Bandit." The suspect began this crime spree in June 2003. Since that time he has been linked to 14 robberies. The suspect later began repeating robberies at some of the locations. Robbery-Homicide Division, along with personnel from **Van Nuys**

**Patrol and Special Enforcement Unit**, while surveying the prospective robbery location, observed a possible suspect on a motorcycle dressed in a leather jacket, and helmet in 100-degree heat. The suspect appeared to be watching the gas station. The suspect left the location, returned and parked his motorcycle approximately 10' from the surveillance van. Officers in the van were able to observe a tattoo on the suspect's neck that matched the tattoo on the suspect depicted in the robbery surveillance photos. Detectives believed that this suspect was the "Read Between the Lines Bandit" preparing to rob the gas station. The suspect was taken into custody without incident. He had a replica handgun with a silencer and laser attachment in his backpack. This was the same weapon described by prior robbery victims and witnesses. Outstanding work!

A Van Nuys Sergeant was flagged down by citizens who reported a man walking in and out of traffic on the Fulton Avenue bridge over the Los Angeles River on September 10. The sergeant located the victim on the sidewalk and asked if everything was all right. The victim stated he was confused. As the sergeant parked his car he heard the sound of the victim hitting the water and concrete riverbed. The sergeant observed the victim floating face down in the river and requested the fire department's swift water rescue team, along with additional police units. A citizen using an extension cord rappelled into the river and pulled the victim out of the current. Fire Department personnel arrived and asked officers to drive them into the river. Two units proceeded down the ramp into the river bottom. The officers misjudged the depth of the water and the vehicles were flooded. About this time, the Fire Department's helicopter with swift water rescue personnel arrived and lowered a firefighter paramedic to the victim. The victim was pronounced dead. The river water is discharged from the sewer treatment plant in the Sepulveda basin, so as a result the Fire Department decontaminates all personnel and equipment which comes in contact with it. The officers who were in the police vehicles were all hosed down to wash off the water and the other contaminants from the river. One police vehicle was damaged beyond repair. The

second vehicle will be returned to service after the repairs are made.

On August 30, Officers **Jose Saldana**, **Chris Kliever**, **Ramon Ortega** and **Maria Pedroza** were assigned Van Nuys Patrol and asked to monitor areas that have been hit with high crime statistics and to catch a bad guy. A short time later



the officers proudly brought a suspect into the Watch Commander's office for the routine pre-booking questions. The suspect refused to answer any questions, all he did was smile. The photo here is

the actual "bad guy" displaying his pearly whites. Did the stats go down for the day? PI **Kliever**, was not very happy that he had to pick up the mess left behind! Hysterical!

### Baby News

Congratulations to **Oscar Casino** and his wife, Ruth on the birth of their baby boy. Little Gabriel Casino was born at Kaiser Hospital on September 21st and weighed 8 lbs 4 oz. Enjoy your little bundle of joy.

### Van Nuys Comings-N-Goings

Coming in: Sgt. I D. Loera, #27515; Sgt. I R. Nakamura, #31842; PII I. Moreno, #35866; PII J. Tuck, #36196; PII P. Choung, #36158; PI J. Elsdon, #36810; PI J. Ewald, #36811; PI J. Hampton, #36817; PI M. Jimenez, #35693; MA2 M. Rhyme, #V9638

Leaving: Det. I L. Lowande, #31120 (to SW); Sgt. I D. Delgado, #27678 (to NHWD); PII M. Hammert #34278 (to FTHL); PII R. Greenbaum, #34516 (to CP); PII S. Anderson, #36153 (to DEV); PII E. Zasueta, #36199 (to DEV); PII D. Lange, #36173 (to WVAL); PII J. Shoemaker, #36192 (to WVAL)

Remains: Det. I M. Rimkunas, #32211.

#33823; P-2 Jeffrey Pelezar, #35869; P-2 Carlos Torres, #35332; P-2 Manual Armijo, #35191; P-2 Robert Casimiro, #35536; P-2 Erwin Delacruz, #35798; P-2 Trina Franklin, #32360; P-2 Juan Gomez, #35608; P-2 Jaime Mejia, #33823; P-2 Steve Nunez, #35382; P-2 William Sexton, #34525; P-2 Tracey Elwood.

### Foothill Detectives

This month we had a detective task force to clear backlog of cases. We had Reserves, city attorneys, community volunteers, mack deployments of patrol officers, phone banks set up to call victims of crimes. I don't know the numbers, but I hear the numbers were good. For everyone involved, thanks for the help and great job.

Again, Field Enforcement Section (Narcotics) is hard at work, responding to the community complaints and conducting investigations to locate another meth lab in the area. Officers are also helping with GTA/BF MV investigations by assisting with follow-up investigations on hot spot locations.

Foothill Vice is led by Sgt. **Joe Kalyan** who checks all ABC locations to ensure all conditions are followed. This includes cleaning many liquor store properties; they hired security guards, lighting, painted out graffiti, and cleaned adjacent neighborhoods. Thanks for the help, area Vice officers.

Congratulations goes out to Sgt. II **Sergio Guzman** for his promotion to West L.A. area to the training unit. We will miss his leadership, expertise, knowledge and friendship to all of us during work and seeing him around his community. As SLO Sergeant, he took care of the community concerns and needs to make their neighborhood safe. What I will miss the most from him is that he helped all the officers out with all of their needs. He would also guide and give them direction to further themselves on the job. I will miss him. He always corrected my projects to make it look good. Thanks for all the help. You are a true friend.

### Foothill Sports

Well we have a flag team with Coach **Cedric Ingram** leading his team to positive resolution. No injuries so far and everyone on the team is healthy and strong. Good luck to a winning season.

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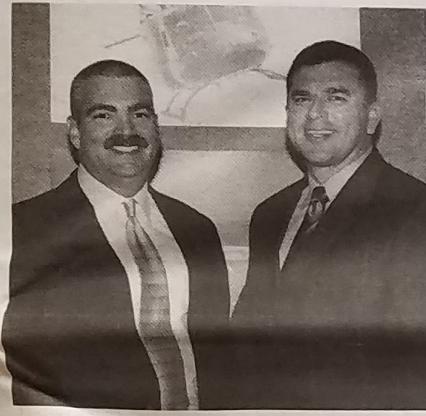
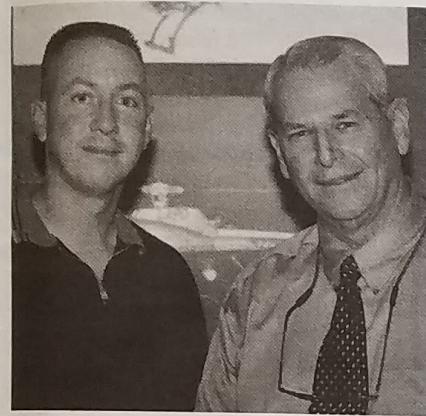
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# the Bird's Eye View

by Jack H. Schonely  
Air Support Division

## Third Annual Dining In

Air Support Division hosted the third annual Dining In on September 30th. This year's event was very well attended and all of us were happy to see so many retirees in attendance. Lt. **Dwight Crosley** was the emcee this year.



After dinner several awards were presented. The first was the **Jay Stephen Hooper** award for the person who has made significant contributions over the year. This year's award was presented to two individuals who happen to be father and son. Reserve Officer **Glenn Grossman** and his son Reserve Officer **Michael Grossman** received the Hooper Award for 2003. The work that

both of these individuals do for Air Support is very evident to all of us.

Glenn is an accomplished photographer and has been involved with LAPD SWAT for 20 years. His talents and dedication have been focused on ASD for the last few years as is visually evident when you enter our lobby. Glenn's photographs cover the walls of ASD. Glenn documents training, special events, and every day missions for us. His aerial photography is well known nationwide and can be seen on the ALEA Web site and within law enforcement publications. His knowledge of how we do business assists him in the types of photos he generates and makes him an excellent ambassador for the division. Glenn gives his time, expertise, and talent to all of us and we appreciate all of his efforts. This man loves the LAPD, and has been a dedicated member of the Metropolitan Division and ASD families. Congratulations, Glenn. We are proud to have you with us.

Mike Grossman has many of the same traits as his father. He gives his time and talent willingly. Mike's expertise has a wide range that includes computer work, especially PowerPoint, and videography including editing. Mike has assisted us with training videos as well as an annual dining in video that has clips from the past year put to music. The quality of his work is evident to all that see it. This year's video was nothing short of incredible. The hours of work involved in just that video would shock most of us yet Mike steps up and gets it done. Mike's reputation in the airborne law enforcement arena is growing fast. Several of his video clips have appeared on the ALEA Web site. Congratulations, Mike, for receiving this well deserved award. All of us at ASD owe Glenn and Mike a great deal of gratitude for all that they do for us each day.

The **Randy Champe and Gary Howe Air Crew of the Year** award is presented to a Pilot and Tactical Flight Officer who are dedicated to the Air Support Mission. This award is chosen by peer members with the Pilots voting for the TFO and the TFOs voting for the pilot. This year's Air Crew is Pilot **Rick Alatorre** and Tactical Flight Officer **Jerry Camporredondo**.

Rick is a 20-year veteran of Air Support and has worked both sides of the cockpit. As a matter of fact, Rick was the recipient of this award twice as a Tactical Flight Officer. Rick is a very

dedicated employee who is always ready to get the job done. He truly cares about the officers on the ground and this is reflected in everything Rick does at ASD. Rick has been training new TFOs for many years and constantly reminds them why they are here; it is for the safety of the officers we assist. Rick is also a member of the UH-1 cadre assisting specialized units. Congratulations, Rick.

Jerry has been a TFO for five years. All of you PM and morning watchers have worked with Jerry on numerous occasions. Jerry is a hard working TFO that gives consistent tactical insight on each call he handles. His mission equipment knowledge is excellent and he has become an excellent troubleshooter on our complicated systems. He is a patient FLIR operator who gets more than his share of "FLIR kills." Because Jerry works the night hours, he gets plenty of opportunity to use his skills and plenty of bad guys go to jail as a result. Jerry is a crew chief on the UH-1 Huey cadre. Congratulations, Jerry.

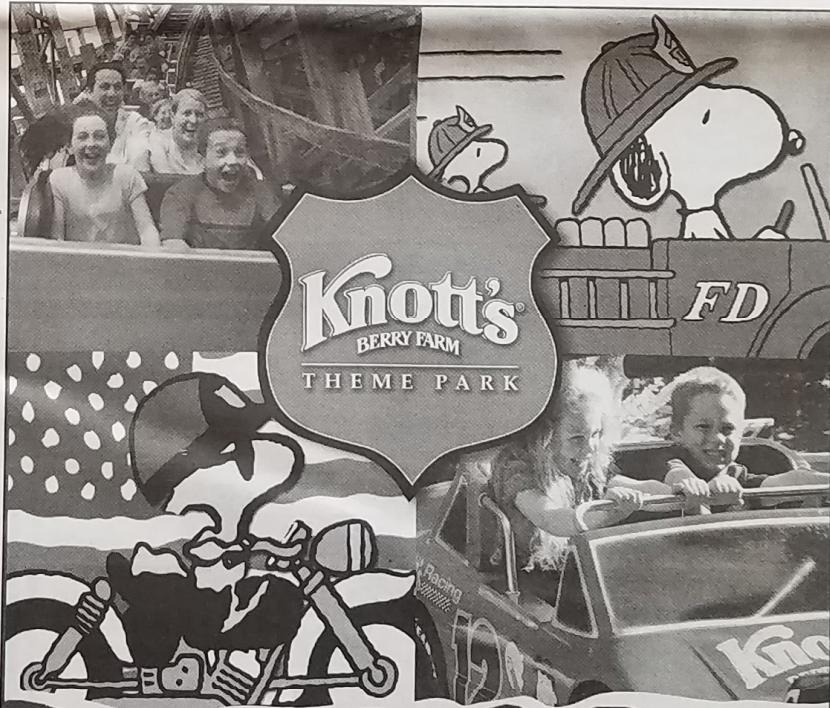
The Chief Pilot Award was presented for the first time this year. Chief Pilot **Don Reuser** selected an air crew that performed exemplary performance under stressful conditions. Don's selection was very clear for this first time award. This award was presented to Pilot **Pete Gillies** and TFO **Sean Malachi**. On Sept. 8, Pete and Sean were working surveillance at 5500 feet over the 5/170 interchange. The crew experienced an engine failure forcing an autorotational decent and landing. Pete followed the emergency procedures calmly and pro-

fessionally and completed a perfect autorotation to the runway at Whiteman Airport in Foothill Division. Sean kept very busy as well as the aircraft descended 1,800 feet per minute. Sean made three broadcasts on three different frequencies requesting Foothill units and LAFD to respond. We have listened to the tapes from communications and air traffic control and the broadcasts are excellent. This crew really kept their cool during the most stressful situation that a helicopter crew faces. Pete and Sean are certainly worthy of this honor. Congratulations, gentlemen.

The evening was highlighted by our guest speaker, aerobatic pilot Mr. Sean D. Tucker. Sean showed several video clips including one cockpit video of his own emergency where the propeller departed the aircraft during an inverted spin with a passenger up front. Sean was able to land safely after keeping his panicky passenger calm the whole way down. It was an amazing video and really demonstrated the professionalism of our guest speaker. Sean talked about the similarities of our professions and about how air crews need to have a passion to be the best they can be to survive in this dangerous job. Sean Tucker is a true professional and it was an honor to have him speak at our Dining In.

A special thanks to Deputy Chief **Mike Hillmann** and Commander **Mark Leap** for their attendance and never ending support of ASD. And also thanks to Sgt. **Doug Abney** for all his hard work in making this event happen. ♦

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# SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

## LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow  
Sports Beat Editor

The year: 1954, the city: Los Angeles... nearly 1.5 million people call it home as do a small group of officers and supporters who gather one evening to honor LAPD's best athletes. Chief Bill Parker is there along with dozens who drive up Boylston Street to the Academy, nestled in the quiet barrio of Chavez Ravine.

Something new called television is catching the nation's fancy and Angelenos can watch original episodes of *I Love Lucy*, *The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet*, *Your Show of Shows* (Sid Caesar) and *The Honeymooners*. CBS was experimenting with something called *color* television and NBC has just moved from Radio City (at Sunset and Vine) into a new facility in Burbank. There were seven stations in town and you might even get a good picture on your huge 15" screen for one or two of them without going up onto the roof to move the antenna around for better reception.

Dwight Eisenhower was president, communists were everywhere (or so Senator Joe McCarthy said), the Los Angeles Angels played at 42nd and Avalon and the Los Angeles Rams were the only pro team in town. Candy bars were a nickel, comic books were a dime, you could still ride a streetcar to work and two bits would buy a gallon of the finest high-test from Gilmore, Signal, Wilshire, Douglas, Flying A, Hancock, Mohawk or any of the four gas stations at the nearest major intersection.

Such was the scene for the first Sports Awards Dinner so long ago that half today's men and women in uniform were wearing diapers at the time (and most of them on the job back then are probably wearing them now). The event has survived over a half-dozen chiefs (including Parker, Tom Reddin, Ed Davis, Daryl Gates, Willie Williams, Bernie Parks and current Chief Bill Bratton) and a like number of mayors (Norris Poulson, Sam Yorty, Tom Bradley, Dick Riordon and current Mayor Jim Hahn).

Fifty years of LAPD tradition will be celebrated on Friday, November 21, and it should be an evening to remember. We're pleased to announce one of the attendees at the very first dinner, Bill Stein (at the time a vice president for NBC), will be attending this year's event. (The accompanying photo of Bill with Chief Parker is, as far as we know, the only picture existing from the First Annual Sports Awards Dinner in 1954.) We look forward to seeing you there, too!



NBC Vice President Bill Stein (who, 30 years later, would have an award named in his honor) meets Chief Bill Parker at the first Sports Awards Dinner in 1954.

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## Flag Football Action

Following a successful planning meeting in September a tournament was planned for the Intradepartmental Flag Football championship. Five teams (Foothill, Hollywood, Newton, 77th Street and Van Nuys) have been playing on Sundays at Cathedral High School in a double-elimination round-robin battle to determine who gets LAPD bragging rights for 2003.

At our deadline for this issue it was estimated that the title game would be played in late October. We'll have results of tournament action in the next issue of *The Thin Blue Line*.

## Full Field Eyes for Baker to Vegas...

The kickoff team captain's meeting for the 20th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay (April 24-25) brought representatives for over 160 teams to the Elysian Park Academy on September 24. Based upon the turnout and from fax, e-mail and telephone inquiries race coordinators are projecting a record number of teams for the 2004 race. A formal application has already been received from Queensland (Australia) Police Services and teams from Great Britain and Berlin, Germany, have expressed interest in making the cross-Atlantic trip.

The next pre-race meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 3, in the Elysian Park Academy Lounge. (Lunch at 1130, meeting starts promptly at 1200.) For more details visit [www.bakervegas.com](http://www.bakervegas.com) or call (323) 221-5223 ext. 221.

## We Welcome Your Articles...

Planning a sports event or have an upcoming one? Submitting an article for Sports Beat is the best way to get info out to a wide range of active and retired department personnel. To be included we must receive articles – via fax or e-mail – no less than three days before the end of current month: by November 27 for January, December 28 for February, etc.

E-mail articles to [LAPDSportsBeat@aol.com](mailto:LAPDSportsBeat@aol.com) or fax to (818) 957-4275. Even if you send notes with a contact name/phone we can write a story that gets the word out. Photos are welcome – lower-res jpeg are preferred via e-mail (or indicate on your fax or e-mail you have photos and we'll contact you).

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## MX'ers Ride in Fundraiser for Special Olympics

by Kevin Korne

Besides its annual Christmas Toy Drive the Fire and Police MX Nationals sponsored a race to support the California Special Olympics. All proceeds were donated to this worthy cause and it was such an outstanding success it will likely become an annual event. The race took place at the Santa Maria Fairgrounds on a track built by the infamous "Dirt Wurx" (who builds all the AMA Supercross tracks). The three-day event also hosted races for AMA Pros.

Once again the LAPD MX Team had a great showing and brought home many medals. One of the most exciting races of the day was watching quad racer **Mark Cleary**. He had a huge lead in the first moto but suddenly started losing his seat (literally) – it was bouncing up and down and finally came off and hit him in the head. The announcer had it right when he said "Mark Cleary is clearly getting no respect from his quad today."

It was terrible yet funny at the same time as we watched him bounce up and down like a kangaroo. Don't think

Cleary thought it was as amusing as we did, especially since it cost him a first place medal. However, yours truly shouldn't laugh – after taking first in the first two motos of the 4-stroke novice class I gave away first place after stalling my motor on the last moto. Now



Mark Cleary learned "hold on to your seat" was more than just a colloquial expression.

who's laughing?

The LAPD team suffered only one crash and it involved **Frank Brien**. It was obvious he suffered a minor concussion when he rode back to the pits (after being knocked out briefly) and

asked his wife "Has it always been this bright out today." When asked some simple questions Brien looked at yours truly with a "deer in the headlights look" ... off he went straight to the medics. He did not want to listen, however. Instead Brien kept saying "Hold on, just give me a minute." How long does it take to remember your name?

**RESULTS FROM SANTA MARIA (ROUND 5):** **John Ashbaugh** (40-49 beginner) first; **Charlie Beck** (50+ expert) first; **Brien** (18-29 novice) fourth; **Rob Cosner** (80cc and 4-stroke expert) second, (18-29 expert) third, (30-39 expert) fourth; **Cleary** (quad) second; **Dan Hadfield** (4-stroke novice) third, (30-39 novice) fifth; **Rob Irvin** (50cc) third, (18-29 beginner) fifth, (30-39 beginner) eighth; **Mike Kilpatrick** (4-stroke intermediate) first, (30-39 intermediate) fourth; **Kevin Korne** (30-39 novice) first, (4-stroke novice) second.

Things were a little different during Round 6 at Starwest Motocross Park. Methinks think people laid it all out and took too many risks since it was the last race of the summer series. By the end of the first moto there were four riders hurt in crashes. Even the fast and the furious Cosner was involved in one during prac-

tice. He landed on the other guy's bike and bruised up his whole body. Cosner thought he may have cracked a rib but that didn't stop him from competing. Here's a little of his philosophy: "If you can walk you can ride" ... "If you know where you are you can ride" ... "If friends can lift you back onto the bike you can ride." Okay, I might be exaggerating a little with the last one. The LAPD team once again brought home many medals.

### RESULTS FROM STARWEST (ROUND 6):

**Ashbaugh** (40-49 beginner) first; **Cosner** (4-stroke) second, (18-29 expert and 30-39 expert) third place; **Cleary** (quad) second; **Hadfield** (30-39 novice and 4-stroke novice) fourth; **Irvin** (50cc and 30-39 beginner) first; **Kilpatrick** (4-stroke intermediate) first, (30-39 intermediate) third; **Tony Perez** (18-29 novice) seventh.

Upcoming: Fire & Police Toy Drive and Christmas Grand Prix on December 9 at Glen Helen Raceway. Once again, we would like to thank our sponsors: FMF, 909, Acerbis, N-style, Maxxis, Troy Lee Designs, Hinson, Maxima, Wiseco, EVS and 661.

More Sports Beat on next page



Hana Relay

## LAPD Women Take Third at Hana Relay

by Marcella Piersol

For the second consecutive year members of the LAPD Women's Long Distance Running Team participated in the Hana Relay. There were 15 open women's teams entered in the event, held September 13 in beautiful Maui, and the LAPD team finished third.

Runners were faced with the grueling Road to Hana, an obstacle course of 617 curves and 56 bridges over approximately 60 miles. Competing were: (top row, from left) Vicki Gissi, Maria Martinez, Michelle Veenstra, and (bottom row) Sharyn Buck, Julie Carpenter and Marcella Piersol. ♦

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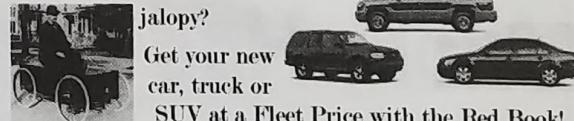
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## Women's Soccer Squad 5th at NoAm Finals

by Karima Tahir

The LAPD Women's Soccer competed September 3-6 at the North American Police Soccer Championships in Long Island, NY. As hosts of last year festivities it was a wonderful chance to sit back, relax and enjoy the hospitality of the New York Police Department. A "little" rain and lightning on the first day only dampened our clothes but not our spirits. We beat our rivals from the Big Apple but lost to Peele (Canada), the eventual tourney winner.

After nursing sore legs we geared up for day two. Beautiful sunny skies and a cool breeze kept us company and, more importantly, dry. Another tough loss to Canada and an afternoon game against Bermuda (which, incidentally, had a tough time getting home due to

September's hurricanes) concluded our participation. At 2-2 we finished fifth out of 10 teams - a .500 result, not too bad.

Most people headed out to local nightclubs for dancing and networking with players/officers from both coasts and England. Some team members journeyed into Manhattan to check out the sights. NYPD was a gracious host and we look forward to the next year's games, hosted by Calgary Police Department (Alberta, Canada).

A small contingent of players will head to Washington, D.C., on March 13-14 for an indoor soccer tournament hosted by the Secret Service. Anyone interested in attending is encouraged to contact **Karima Tahir** (NHWD Vice) at 818-623-4100 or via e-mail: karimt@hotmail.com. ♦

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## LAPD United Cops 4th at NoAm Tourney

by Don Barfield

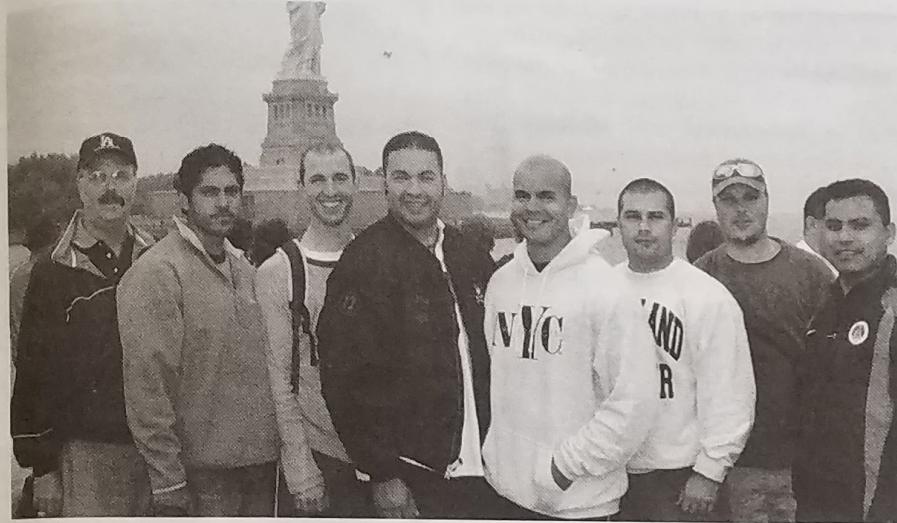
Teams from the United States, Canada, Britain, and the Caribbean Islands made their mark on New York at the North American Police Soccer Championships, held September 3-6 on Long Island. The tournament is one of the premier police soccer events of the year.

Out of 15 teams in our division the LAPD United Football Club finished

is recognized locally, throughout the US and internationally. The core of the squad resides in the defense anchored by goalie **Jose Herrera** along with **Kevin Currie, Sean Dinse, Robert Morales, Paul Prevost** and **Jim Erwin**. All did a remarkable job in this international tournament, ably assisted by workhorse midfielders **Matt Saminski, Peter Lee, Mike Lorenz, Romeo Rubacalva, Luis Aguliar, Thad Barfield** and **Dennis Alfaro**. Kudos go to the guys up-front



LA United Football Club (blue uniforms) poses with their comrades from the New York FD before playing to a scoreless tie...



Apparently "give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to be free" also includes LAPD soccer players.

first overall in the qualifying round. Plus we did not allow any goals against by opposing team players in the four qualifying games (a remarkable feat). Unfortunately LAPD was shutout 1-0 York-Heat (Canada) in the first game of the semi-finals thus placing fourth overall in its division. LAPD played Halton (Canada) to a 1-0 win, New York Fire to a 0-0 tie, Philly PD to a 5-0 win and Seattle PD to a 3-1 win.

The character of LAPD United continues to grow, evolving into a team that

who make the plays, **Jorge Morales** and **Marlon Marrache**. Our thoughts and prayers go to **Michael Chang** who was unable to accompany us due to an ill mother.

Anyone interested in coming out for the team is welcome to attend our Wednesday evening soccer practices at the Elysian Park Academy (1930 hrs sharp). Please — no cleats — tennis or turf shoes only! We are continually looking for good players. For more info contact Coach **Don Barfield** at his office (562-462-3982) or by pager (800-310-3189).♦



...and show some "brotherly love" for the Philadelphia PD team before taking a 5-0 victory.



Team members warm up before competing at the North American Police Soccer Championships.

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More Sports Beat on next page

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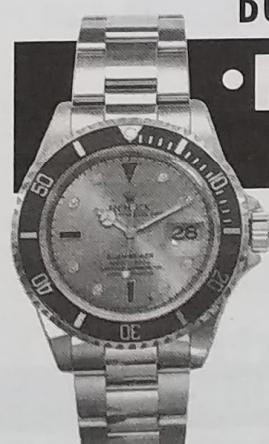
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## SPORTS BEAT

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### Academy Awards Theme Set for 50th Sports Awards Dinner Nov. 21

by Lew Snow  
Sports Beat Editor

Anticipation is mounting as the celebration of a lifetime—LAPRAAC's 50th Annual Sports Awards Dinner—fast approaches on Friday, November 21. LAPD Athletic Director **Tony Adler** and the dinner committee are currently putting final touches on an "Academy Awards" themed event billed as "business casual."

Surprise entertainment and sports celebrities are scheduled to appear. Past visitors read like a list from *Who's Who*: Eric Dickerson, Rafer Johnson, Ken Landreaux, Mike Piazza, Dwight Stones, Maury Wills, Milton Berle, Christine Devine, Buddy Hackett, Bob Newhart, Ed O'Neil, Fred Roggin, Danny Thomas, Joe Wambaugh and Jonathan Winters (to name but a few).

Not to be overshadowed by the entertainment and gala festivities, the sung and unsung heroes of LAPD's sports program will be honored. Individuals and teams who have excelled, set records, given 150 percent or more and presented a positive image of the department will be recognized for continuing LAPD's tradition for having the best law enforcement athletic program in the world.

The evening begins with cocktails at 1700 followed by 1800 by a sumptuous buffet feast. Entertainment and presentation of awards will start at 1900. Pre-sale tickets (\$25 per person) are available from the LAPRAAC Administrative Office at the Elysian Park Academy. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door at a much higher cost. For more information, call (323) 221-5222, ext. 201. ♦

### LAPD Centurion Football 2004 Cheerleader Tryouts

The LAPD Centurions are looking for dedicated personnel to join our cheerleading squad in supporting our West Coast championship team.

Along with cheering and dancing, the Centurion Cheerleaders act as ambassadors for the team at fundraising events, home and away games.

All city employees are welcome.

Tryouts will be held for the 2004 football season at:

West Los Angeles College football field,  
9000 Overland Ave., Culver City 90230

Saturdays, December 6 and 13, 0930 hours

Please wear workout clothes and bring city I.D. to tryouts. For more information, contact Det. Sharlene Johnson at Wilshire Detective Division, (213) 847-3994 or (310) 915-3931. ♦

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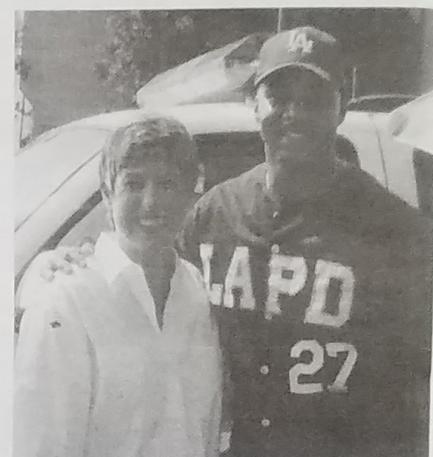
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### Centurions Host Slugfest for Charity

Approximately 70 children and adults slugged it out for the title "Best Bat in the Valley" as part of a charity drive sponsored by the LAPD Centurions baseball team. The contest began on Wednesday night, Sept. 24, 2003, and continued through Sunday morning, Sept. 28, 2003, at the Sherman Oaks Castle Batting Cages. A \$15 registration fee, T-shirt sales, and raffle tickets helped raise money that will be used to purchase presents for disadvantaged children during the holiday season. Officer **Mike Scott** said, "This is part two of the Centurions baseball team's three-part plan in bringing children, the community, and police department together through America's favorite pastime. Our events (Swing-a-Thon, Best Bat in the Valley, and Holiday Toy Giveaway) raise funds, awareness, and support to some of the most disadvantaged members of our community. We are only doing a small part of what needs to be done to improve the quality of life

Councilwoman Wendy Greuel were on hand to watch the best in the valley slug it out for top prizes and bragging rights. Greuel spoke and praised the LAPD Centurions baseball team for their



Councilwoman Wendy Greuel with Officer Mike Scott during "Best Bat in the Valley" Batting Competition.



Event Coordinator John Wawee, Officer Mike Scott, & Bobby Arias pose with 16 years to 20 years Batting Champion (top prize an Easton Z-core Bat).



Left to right: Community Leader Bobby Arias, Officer Cesar Corona, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, Lieutenant Tim Moss, Officer Ernie Fischer, & Officer Mike Scott pose with several Batting Competition Winners.

of our Los Angeles community." The batting competition consisted of seven age groups, from eight years up to adults, including a girl's fast pitch softball category. Three contestants from each age group with the highest batting scores advanced to the finals which was held on Sunday morning, Sept. 28, 2003. Several spectators including City

efforts in the community and then assisted with the award presentations for the finalists. Part three of the Centurions charity events will be a big toy giveaway party for several L.A. children in the month of December. To participate or for more information, contact Officer Mike Scott at (818) 268-2488 or Lt. **Tim Moss** at (818) 756-9240. \*

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# RETIREMENT NEWS



The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

## Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (SABLA)

by Bernie Remas

### Thanksgiving Day, 2003

This time of the year is a great time to give "thanks" for all the blessings we have received during this year. It is a time for the beginning of celebration in anticipations of the coming Christmas holidays. It is absolutely my favorite time of the year! I hope that this will be your favorite time of the year too!

Good things keep happening here in SABLALand! Happiness is all around here this time of year!

The annual LAPD picnic and barbecue for 2003, hosted by **Ron & Marilyn Kiser** in Sonoma is now history! I'll bet some of you missed it just because you weren't paying attention. Sorry! Another article in the *Blue Line* will have all the details of who you missed and what a great party it was on Saturday, September 27, 2003.

If you missed that, then you may have missed our SABLA September regular get-together on September 10. We did have to change from Thursday to Wednesday, because we had a great speaker that could only make it that day! Did you miss?

Our guest speaker was **Dr. Harry Khasigian**, a noted orthopedic surgeon in our area. But no medical info at this luncheon. No discussion about our arthritic knees and similar problems. This speaker did all his talk on FOOTBALL! What fun it was too!

Harry is a very personable and articulate speaker who also has a great sense of humor. His football experiences began near Fresno and then on to the University of Southern California (USC) for his All-American college years. He played offensive line during the '70s, under the tutelage of the famous John McKay.

How different things were looking from the inside, rather than what we remember from those days. This was when the famous—now infamous—O.J. Simpson was playing in the USC back field. You remember those years, right? The years 1967, 1968 and 1969? Dr. Harry remembers that his roommates at one time were Mike Holmgren, now coach of the Seattle Seahawks, and also Jim Fasil, coach of the New York Giants pro football teams.

But back to Coach McKay. Although

glib and open for TV, etc., the coach was not known for mixing. He didn't "do" pre-game meets nor be at pep rallies on campus. The assistant coaches "ran" the team! There were lots of "quirks" for the USC team member in those days. No drinking of water during practice. No mouth guards were allowed. You should have been there for the others! My favorite story of his was when they went back to South Bend, Indiana, to play Notre Dame. The team was bused to Elkhart, Ind., for their stay before the game. Somebody asked, "How come, not South Bend?" Dr. Harry told us that in previous years when the team had stayed at a hotel in South Bend, the Notre Dame band played all night outside the hotel windows! Imagine. That kept everyone awake! So now it's Elkhart. Not as much support for the Notre Dame band there. For those of you that missed him, shame on you! You missed a really entertaining speaker.

I told you recently that **Bob Keel** is up and around from surgery. He still needs to stay on the Remas "seafood" diet though. And now I've got another candidate for that same diet. **Charlie Young**, from Roseville Sun City showed up at this luncheon. He's on the mend, but does need my diet. Charlie! Seafood diet! Eat all the food you can "see". **Chuck Blogin** was with Charlie. But Blogin doesn't need my diet—thank you. He's looking just fine.

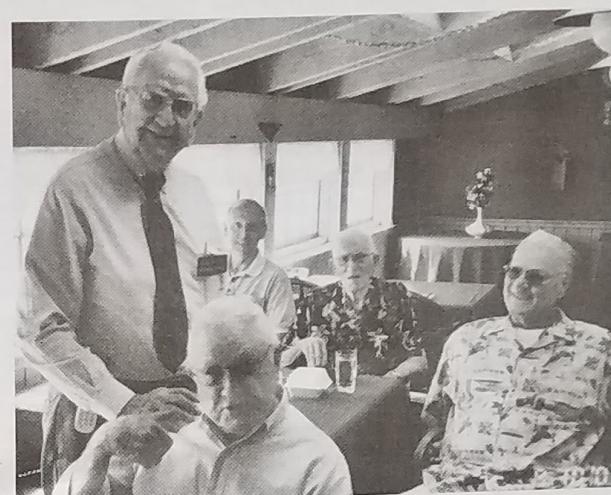
Bob Keel is doing so well that he and **Ferna** were leaving that Saturday for San Pedro in Southern California. They were going on Carnival's Elation for a cruise down Mexico way and through the Panama Canal! I said, "Bob, you've already been through the canal." He said, "I know, but it was such fun we're gonna go again! And," he said, "this cruise ends up in Houston, Texas." He said this will be their third trip through the Panama. When you got something good going, keep it going!

**Hoy Key**, our illustrious secretary/treasurer, states that many of you long-time SABLA members have not paid up your dues. Shame! Shame! Only \$15 for the whole year. C'mon. You're missing out on the continuing excerpts from the unpublished book of **John Powers**! The former Cmdr. Powers has left us, but his text was left with Hoy to publish in the monthly SABLA newsletter. Send your \$15 to Hoy at 5057 Dreamgarden Loop, Roseville, CA 95747. Or a check made

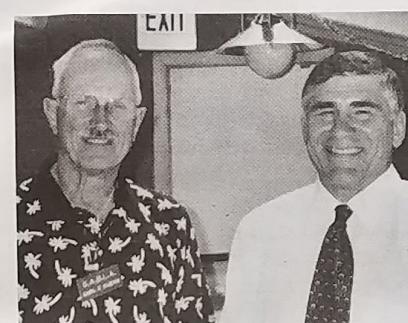
out to SABLA.

Our new "Prez", **Carl**, is doing his best for you. How about coming to the SABLA luncheons and meet and greet all these fine folks? You'll enjoy yourself and maybe learn sumpin' too!

Back to the September luncheon, 'cause there were some ex-LAPD people you missed. **Dick King** from Lodi was back in again to see everyone. Dick leaves the heat of Palm



Sitting: Chuck Ward "I didn't do it."; standing left: George Puddy; sitting right: Chuck Blogin; rear left: Jim Meskan & Charlie Long.



Left Carl Kuehn, SABLA chairman with Dr. Harry Khasigian, guest speaker.

Desert for the heat of Lodi in the summer. He's looking good and said that his wife Betty was all ready for another wine harvest at their place in Lodi. **Nate Iannone** from Orangevale was there. Where were you? **Chuck Ward** and **Chuck Crawford** were sitting together. You know, motor officers. They always sit together, and sometimes in your eatin' spot!

Our head table had the Prez, **Carl Kuehn** with wife **Ellie**, Hoy Key with **Wilma Laycock** and our SABLA guest speaker, Harry Khasigian. You could've too if you had been there!

Another of our ex-Prezes, **George Puddy**, was there. Sadly, I'm told that George had a heart attack and is in the hospital. No more details are available at press time. **Jim Meskan** came in late. I thought he was back working again. But he assured me that nope, just late.

Next luncheon is the second Thursday of the month. For November, it's on the 13th of the month! It's at Friends Restaurant, with an open menu. Choose

your own. It's at Highway 50 and Zinfandel, the north side of Highway 50, east of downtown Sacramento, 1130 hours. Bring \$15 for dues. And money for lunch!

Your one chance of the month to mix with the absolute best retired police officers in the whole, wide world.

Also, while you're putting your social calendar together for the holidays, don't forget our SABLA luncheon in the lodge at Del Webb's Sun City. It's Thursday, December 18, 2003. It's at 1100 hours. There's an open bar, so



"Yes, I did have lunch" Dick King, Lodi.

bring money for those "things."

This is a chance to celebrate the season and enjoy one of the best buffets around. There may be some gifts from Santa for everyone too!

Be good to each other out there. We need and love each and every one of you!

**More Retirement News on next page**

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## George Underhill, 3181

**Birthday – July 14, 1912**

Now 91 years, may be oldest living motor officer, LAPD 1942. My first motor. Note bat shield, no radio, kick start, no helmet..



# RETIREMENT NEWS

## Inland Blue Line

by Loyd H. Yandle

Well fall is finally here. Does not seem like fall. It was only 103 degrees on the day fall came around. I was all set for fall. Had my jacket laid out, but never got to use it. It registered 103 on my thermometer, on my vehicle. I've got one of those new gadgets that tells you inside just how hot it is outside. What will they think of next? Maybe it will cool off come November. I've just about had all I can stand of this heat.

I mailed out 250 letters on Sept. 16 for the Oct. 8 luncheon. By Sept. 30 I had confirmed reservations for 65, and I had received nine letters back. They listed mostly that the forwarding time had expired for they had not put in for forwarding their mail. This sure makes it hard when they don't even call or write me that they had moved. Then about the time for the next luncheon some of them call me and chew me out because they never got their notice. I usually get eight to ten letters back each luncheon date and have to double up on the stamps to send out a second notice. And usually the ones that bitch the most have not even paid their dues. I have some guys who have not paid dues for two and even three years, but they come to every luncheon. It has been suggested that we set a policy. If you're two years behind, the club drops you from the roll. I hate to do that, because I know some people are a little forgetful in their old age. I know because I have to look at my driver's license every once in a while to see who I am. It's called "old timers." But seriously, it sure makes it hard on me to keep track of all you guys. So please if you move, let me know. Come January 1st, all dues are due and should be paid by Jan. 15th at least. Well so much for that.

Remember Ted Snyder? He came through the Academy with me on March 16, 1949. Ted passed away a year ago. Now I just read in the last *Police & Fire Retired Bulletin* that Ted's wife, Beverly, had passed away in June. That's sad. They were a cute couple and loved life. Had a beautiful home high on a hill overlooking Palm Desert. Ted built it himself while still on the job. We will miss them both at our class reunion come March 16, 2004, as well as Irving Kasper who passed away recently. We had a lot of fun going through the Academy along with all the aches and pains that one goes through just to be a cop. But it was worth it. I thank God every day for leading me through the good and bad times of police work. I worked a lot of jobs in my time. (I was 31 when I went on), but this was the best and most rewarding job I ever had.

I talked to Floyd Phillips the other day. He is slowly improving after breaking his back. I hope he is well enough to make to the Jan. 14, 2004 luncheon. I've tried to get a hold of Lyle Strand. Lost his address, but have been calling and calling. He must have a computer and is on it all the time and no one can get a hold of him. Call me, Lyle. You have my number. Capt. Bob Perry called me a week

ago. He is not doing too well, but says he is going to hang in there. He told me that **Stu Sipma** has Lou Gehrig's Disease and had to move back to Minnesota, he got so bad. He is now in a rest home and not expected to live but a short time. Sure sad. Stu was such a nice guy, both on and off the job. Always willing to help in any way he could. Drop him a line (see P.S. at the end of article.)

**Guy Salerno** is slowly improving. What do you expect at 94 years young? Most of us would be giving up, but not Guy. Hang in there, Guy. We need you around for moral support. I hope I look so good as Guy when I'm 94. I'm slowly creeping up to that point, but in my case one has to realize what one has to work with. I cleaned that up, **Bill Goldberg**, before you had a chance to say it. Ha! Heard from **Chuck Albright**. He lives in Provo, Utah. He wanted to come visit the club in October. Chuck has lost most of his eyesight (macular degeneration), but he sounds great and appears in good spirits. He says his wife is his eyes and does all the driving and close work. He gives the orders and says he carries a big stick. I asked, "Is that to keep your wife in line?" He would not comment. He just laughed. Just kidding. You forget I was married to the same woman for 60 years. But I had good eyesight and could run faster than she. It will be good to see Chuck and all the gang (21 of us left from a class of 57 graduates) at our March 16, 2004, reunion. It will be 55 years since we entered the Academy. I would like to hear from all retired officers who entered the Academy on March 16, 1949. I have to make plans.

I saw **Larry Crowe** and his lovely wife at Pechanga Indian Casino last Monday, Sept. 22. They are bingo buffs, too. Larry says he will try and make the next luncheon. If not, he will make the luncheon on Jan. 14 for sure.

Had a call from **Al Santor**. He lives in Gladstone, Oregon, but has a winter home in Palm Desert (where do these guys get all their money?), owning two homes and traveling all over. **Sherry** (Al's wife) is going on a cruise. Al says he has to stay home and make some much needed repairs on the Oregon home. Al says he will be down to their winter home by Thanksgiving.

Read my article in the December issue of *Thin Blue Line*. Have some important information you will be interested in. So don't miss it. So that's about it for now.

So remember, buckle up. It's a jungle out there. Take your Viagra and kiss your wife at least once a day, whether she needs it or not. We don't have them nearly long enough.

Remember, mark your calendar now. Next luncheon is on Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2004. Non Inland Blue Line members call me at (909) 925-4491. I'll see that you get a notice with reservation.

P.S. Write to Stu Sipma at 7911 Congdon Blvd., Duluth, Minn 55804. ♦

## Retirement Corner

Rank Name Serial No. Last Assigned to	No. of Years
DET-II Eric E. Lindquist 15979 Narcotics	33
DET-II Phillip T. Thomas 17677 Rampart	31
DET-III Joseph J. Pau 21774 Detective Support Div.	28

3 of L.A.'s finest for a total of 92 yrs of service.

## Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next meeting will be on November 19, 2003, at "The LAMPLIGHTER" Restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave and Nordhoff St. We meet in the Bar/Lounge area of the restaurant. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 a.m. Coffee is available until orders are taken. All LAPD officers, wives/friends (active or retired) are welcome to attend. We have no membership dues and time is spent renewing friendships and reminiscing.

We had 27 attending September 17th luncheon. The following attended: **Don BARNETT** (7433), **Ted DEBS** (6808), **Earnie** (3918) and **Sylvia DICKENS**, **Emmett DRENNEN** (3279), **Ray ELMER** (5607), **Clinton ERICKSON** (5608), **John ERNST** (3280), **Bill FEDDERSON** (4823), **Billi FELIZ**, **Bob FRITZ** (4583), **Fred HALL** (4967), **Jack HALSTEAD** (2511), **Dr. Jack HALSTEAD JR.**, **Mike JAUREGUI** (12143), **John KEPKE** (4603), **Dean KNOUSE** (6057), **Tom LINDHOLM** (4734), **Lou MELLOTT** (4037), **Boris MENEGHELLI** (3522), **Jake ORBUS** (5407), **Dale RICKARDS** (3593), **Duane (Whitey) RYBURN** (3981), **Jim TRAX** (6185), **Dean WARNER** (5682), **Earl WELLS**, (6297), and **Dick YOUNG** (10585).

John Ernst was a first time attendee; also Jack Halstead was accompanied by his son Dr Jack Halstead who had been visiting his father. I attended the SABA BBQ in Sonoma on September 27th and talked with several retirees that live locally and am hoping to see some of them at future meetings. We have room for additional 15-20 attendees, so mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you need more information please contact me at the numbers listed below.

I know there are a lot of you that worked in the Valley and live in this area and hope you will come and join your old friends for a great bull session. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at [clintsr@pacbell.net](mailto:clintsr@pacbell.net) if you want or have information of interest for us at the Lamplighters. **IF ANY OF YOU BECOME AWARE OF THE PASSING OF OFFICERS YOU HAVE WORKED WITH, LET ME KNOW SO I CAN PASS THE INFORMATION TO MY E-MAIL LIST OF RETIRED VALLEY OFFICERS.**

Our meeting information and attendees are on [www.larfpa.com](http://www.larfpa.com). the names appear on the Website about a month prior to seeing them in the *Blue Line* column. Hope to see some more new faces at the next meeting in September and if you don't remember the date, remember it is always the 3rd Wednesday of each month. ♦

## Coachella Valley Blue Line and Golf Club

by Ron and Elayne Gray

**Anguiano, Doug Nelson and Dale Pierce.**

Third, Rick Besel, **Russ Stevens**, and **Ron and Elayne Gray**. DAL, **Larry DeLosh**, **Gary Guthrie**, **Steve Hobson** and **Jim Ladow**.

Melody Bowers, **Carl Paul**, **Pat Anguiano**, **Jim LaDow**, **Bill Rodgers**, **Tony Davis**, **Sandy Watson**, **Doug Nelson** and **George Aitchison** all won prizes for their performance on the course. In addition, a drawing was held for lots more prizes. Nutro Dog and Cat Food was a major sponsor so we all went home with goodies for our pets. Those most likely to get a sunburn (baldest) all got visors.

It was a great tournament and we're all looking forward to the third annual! ♦

## Prescott Area Blueline Ninth Annual

## Xmas Party

for Retired, Active and Their Guests.

Friday, December 5, 2003 a@ 1800 hrs.

Historic Hotel St. Michael  
205 W. Gurley Street • Prescott, AZ.

The Hotel St. Michael is an elegant example of turn of the century interiors. The Crystal Ballroom was first opened to the public on June 5, 1901. As an added bonus "The Annual Courthouse Lighting" is Saturday, December 6th across the street from Hotel St. Michael. Your Reservations are required by no later than November 18th. The cost is \$22 per person. Tickets will be available for our great raffle prizes.

Make checks payable to "PBL" and mail to: George Tyree, 6875 N. Harris Dr., Prescott, AZ. 36305.

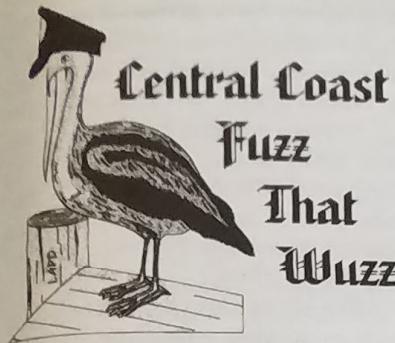
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Tony & Todd Pfalzgraf (928) 776-8599

Gene Lyon (928) 717-1130

John & Marge Teetor (928) 443-1568



by Dave Aikins

Greetings from all of us on the central coast. Baseball season is over and football is shifting into high gear, so most of us sports fans are a happy bunch. Speaking of happy stuff, the Fuzz group held its auction/fundraiser at Rosa's fine restaurant in Pismo Beach last September. About 50 of us retirees and spouses gathered for some LAPD camaraderie and fellowship. The wild bunch had a super time as did the restaurant staff, which always seems to enjoy serving our lunch and watching the antics of the Fuzz gang in action. The owner of Rosa's told me that she looks forward to seeing our LAPD group as we have so much fun. I'll buy that. **Paul Mattson** did a superb job handling the auction with the assistance of **Sam Lopez** and **Tom Zwinger**. **Stella Mattson** was our



beach to meet him. My first meeting with Stevens was fascinating. Bob is 82 years old and looks and acts about 25 years younger. He rattled off LAPD stories so fast that I could hardly keep up with him. Stevens had quite a career with the city of Los Angeles, working 20 years in a variety of interesting assignments, ending up in 1963 as security chief for Mayor Sam Yorty. After his retirement in 1968 he worked as Mayor

Yorty's Deputy Chief Protocol Officer. His photo album, which he showed me, brought back some great memories I had as a rookie cop back in the '60s. Bob had been in the thick of things in the political arena back in those days. After a wonderful time talking to Bob and his wife Li, who by the way is a very talented artist, he handed me some unique items representing the Yorty era for our auction. These included glassware, dishware and jewelry items that were given to visiting dignitaries when visiting the City of the Angels. Our deep



appreciation goes to Bob Stevens for his thoughtfulness in providing these gifts to his brother and sister officers.

We auctioned Bob's donations at the luncheon and they were picked up by **Patty O'Learn** for her father, 86-year-old **Oscar O'Learn**. Oscar was the LAPD theft expert in pick pocketing whose expertise was recognized across the country as well as internationally. Oscar,

a retired Detective III, is living at his home in Arleta and enjoys hearing about the LAPD clan. Patty's brother, **Danny O'Learn**, is a retired LAPD Lieutenant. Patty's late husband, **Duane Gansemeyer**, an LAPD Southeast Detective Lieutenant and former Chief of Police in Pismo Beach, passed away several years ago. There is a lot of LAPD blue running through that family.

Patty had set up a special pictorial display at the luncheon and provided some very interesting biographical information about her father. The Fuzz gang wished him a very happy birthday, utilizing Patty's tape recorder. Subsequently, Patty put together a photo album of our luncheon for her father to enjoy.

A special thanks to **Marty Schlocker** for providing updated information to all the veterans present. We especially want to thank those who could not attend but sent donations to help fund our Christmas party. Our founders, **Freeman & Nellie Calvert** and **Bob & Aileen Rackerby** were present, and, of course, we missed **Chief Davis** and wife **Bobbie** who were unable to attend. The chief is on the mend and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Our next event is our Christmas party at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo on Thursday, December 18. We'll have more information next time.

Take care and catch us at pismoguyn@gmail.com. KMA. ♦

## LAPD Wine Country Picnic & BBQ September 27, 2003

They keep getting better! I know that's hard to believe, but it's true!! I've been there! But this year's LAPD Wine Country Picnic was a great feast and a good time!! Sorry if you missed it, and you've just realized that another one has passed!!

The annual LAPD picnic & BBQ for 2003 hosted by **Ron & Marilyn Kiser** in Sonoma is now history!

You bet some of you missed it just because you weren't paying attention! Ron & Marilyn use the whole family to put this together. **Ann & Jeff Kiser**, he of Metro fame, and his LAPD sister **Rhonda** & hubby **Ron Van Gober** put all their energy in making sure everyone has a good time!

We started off with pizza, Sonoma & Vella Cheeses and crackers to get every-

one OFF their diets. Of course, the wine was being poured and the beer keg was tapped. Soda pops and bottled beer by the tubs were all around. All this was only to wash all those appetizers down before we got on the hayride!

This year Ron got some help for the 1928 Italia truck for the hayride. He had a tractor pulling a second hayride trailer, so we had double the fun! Out in the vineyard, we were met by Lorraine of the famous Sangiacomo grape growing family!! They sell their Sonoma grown grapes to just about all the big wine producing companies including Beringer, Kendall-Jackson and Clos Du Bois to name a few. 53 wineries on the list she provided! It may have been a shorter list if she had listed the wineries they DON'T sell to! She answered all of our



Ron Kiser, "Last raffle prize worth a small fortune."



Left Al Fried, right Bob Carleton. "Bob this ain't Vegas!"

questions while Jeff and Ron were pouring white, rose and red wines! What a hayride, —sitting on real hay!

LAPDers were everywhere you turned. Even some retired ones, like **Jim** and **Martha Hardin**, **George & Harriet Conroy** from Graeagle, and **SABLA Jim & Louise Byrd** from Angwin, CA.

Other SABLA guys & gals were **Ken & Betty Carlsted**, **Nate Iannone** and **Clara Carpenter**, **Dick & Betty King** and 2 guests, **Chairman Carl & Ellie Kuehn**, **Bill & Muriel McMonagle**, **Chuck & Lorrie Ward** and 2 guests. **Alan Deal** said he would see us more often, but P.O.S.T. in Sacramento keeps him busy!!

Two guys that were sitting around drinkin' and visitin' were an old 77th buddy of mine **Al Fried** and none other

than **Bob Carleton**. These two made me promise that I would be at the 77th Reunion in May of 2004. I only did that so that Al's wife Sharon would quit asking me to fill up her beer cup!! I mean, —I was busy keeping my own filled!! Just kidding Sharon! We were all enjoying the moment!

**Steve & Mary Tilden**. (See photo) A former SABLA regular, now tells me they are living in Weed, CA. I asked if he went there willingly? He said, 'Yes, and he was getting closer & closer to Oregon! Take note you Oregonians! For fun & games, Steve plays the banjo!! He had an array of musical instruments with him. One was a 10 string guitar that was made from the shell of an armadillo from South America. Got to sing-along with a couple of old ones. A couple he

continued on page 48

### More Retirement News on next page

NOVEMBER			Event Time/ Social	Meal
November 2	Cops for Tots Car Show		0800	
November 5	L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting		1000	
November 13	S.A.B.L.A		1130	
November 14	LAPD/LASD Fight for Life Boxing Event		1830	
November 17	Guns & Hoses Golf Day at Porter Valley CC		1000	
November 19	Valley Retired Blues		1030	1200
November 21	50th Annual Sports Awards		1700	1800
November 22	"A Night with Joe Friday" LA Police Historical Society Dinner			
DECEMBER				
December 5	Prescott Area Blue Line Christmas Party		1800	
December 14	L.A. Retired Fire & Police Christmas Party		1100	
December 17	Valley Retired Blues		1030	
December 18	Central Coast Fuzz Christmas Party @ Madonna Inn			
December 18	S.A.B.L.A. Christmas Luncheon		1100	♦



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# RETIREMENT NEWS

## Wine Country Picnic

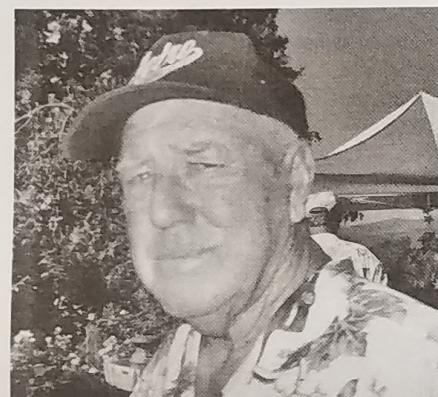
continued from page 47



Steve & Mary Tilden "Wanna hear some music."

played were too old for me, so I passed!

I got to see **Roger Williams** again. You know. The one that **doesn't** play piano! He & wife **Maxine** were busy helping out around the check-in table! He told me that the 2 Kisers did NOT



Roger Williams, "No, I'm not the one that plays the piano!"

win the annual horseshoe tournament! But I didn't get the names. Just that Ron & Jeff have been perennial winners at this event!

Ron has quite a museum of LAPD memorabilia all around the BBQ area. A new addition I'm told is the dress uniform of an LAPD Policewoman!! Remember them?? I'm told a special 'Thanks' must go to **Melva Glavas** for parting with a formal P/W handbag, and the accompanying .38 cal. revolver!

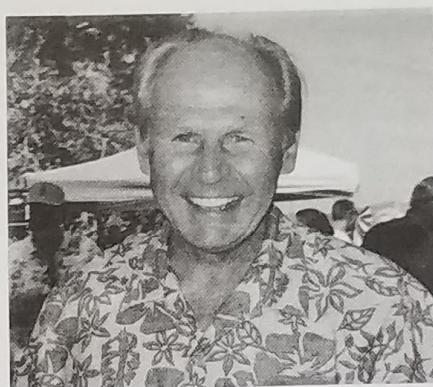
There are so many great X-LAPDers that add to this annual picnic & BBQ, with something special in their lives!!

**Gary Strickland** and wife **Carol** were seen sneakin' a drink of sumpin' or other! Gary & I began reminiscing about the old days in Metro, and our Lt., the late **Rudy Brillon**. Gary was going home one night alone in his Metro car. You know. I didn't ask if I could tell this story. But the statue has run out, right??

On the seat next to Gary was a cold 6-pack. One of them was being used. This Metro car came alongside and beeped the horn. Gary thinking that it was another Metro guy going home too, —it was late. Like 2 or 3 AM. Gary lifted his cold one, high in the window! Just saying 'Hi'!

Well, Gary's brain matter turned to mush. Guess who was in the other Metro car??? Yep! Lt. Rudy 'Iron Eyes' Brillon! I asked Gary if Rudy ever said anything to him. Nope. And he didn't have to. Never again! Never! Most of the time we were good. Really good! But sometimes...

Another Metro man **John Weinbeck** was there with his wife **Shirley**. John reminded me a couple times of all the fun we had during those Metro Days of the '60's & 70's. Yes, I told him. But a lot



Ben Rendahl, "Is this a Metro party?"

of those we can't write about in public, —not just yet! **Ben Rendahl** (See photo) another Metro man, was back for another year, with his wife **Trudi**. Both were looking good!

And I've mentioned this before, but **John & Lina Roberton** were there as usual! John was 'cookin'! Really cookin'! Lina mentioned to me, that I had recently written, that that both do OK 'cookin'!! I didn't make a mistake sayin' that did I?? Lina said —No! And 'Thank you'!

**Al & Vicki Proudfoot** were there from Lake County! **Vicki** is recovering from a recent bout with medical problems, but you would never know it looking at her. They both looked great!

I thought it was a nice touch that the Kisers had **John Gurney** and his wife **Phyllis** at the picnic. John is currently the Sonoma Chief of Police. With all these current & X-Metro **guys** here, —you never know! I wonder if the **Chief** has his wine cellar —full??? Just kidding everybody!!

I was a Chief in a small town once. They had a big tomato processing plant there!! Guess what I got. It wasn't wine!!

**Walt Banga**, active LAPDer and 'driver' for the Mayor of L.A., and **Jeannette** were both there! Where were you??

**Charlie Duke** and **Jan** were there from Dayton, Nevada. Charlie is teaching school part-time, and still looks like he could do another 20, —easy!

During the eatin', visitin', talkin' and drinkin' times everyone was movin' around just for a few refills. All the beer and wine you could drink. Some of those wineries featured were Sebastiani, Leveroni, Kunde, Laurel Hill (Mayo family) Diane Mayo went to school with

Ron, and Gloria Ferrer. What champagne Gloria makes!! But Ron & Marilyn absolute best patrons are **Fred & Nancy Cline** of ClineCellars.com! All of these wineries are generous with their great wines!! Just try the Cline Carignane! It tasted so good, I ordered some when I arrived home!! These are Sonoma wines now. Not to be confused with those 'others'!

After all of this, now were getting ready to do some serious eating! Got in line thru Ron's LAPD museum heading for the salad and rolls. Then onto the steaks and chicken, being cooked right before your eyes by **Louie Ricci** and **Rich Tucker**. And **John Roberton**, already mentioned. Home-made chili served up by **Ann Kiser**. Yes, same family. My plate is overflowing!! Am I glad I'm hungry!! **Pat Wu** who works with Jeff Kiser really helped too!

Now if all of that was not enough, —ice cream bars etc. served for dessert, were the compliments of **Vince & Nancy Costa**, the Pizza Man. Vince donated, cooked and served the pizza earlier in the day!! What a crew of friends and family that the Kisers put together for this day, for us to enjoy!! Our 'thanks' to all of them!

Now those of you that were in attendance and didn't get mentioned here, please don't feel bad. With a crowd this size, it's impossible to get everyone in. Unless you did something spectacular or crowd pleasing!! Just kidding!

X-SABLAMan **John Krasts** was there I'm told, from down on the San Luis Obispo coast.

And so many others not mentioned here, I'm sorry.

And we can't close without mentioning the fabulous raffle **and** door prizes that the Kisers put together. Again they had the special boxes with custom **made** labels, LAPD, the date, and a replica of 'our' badge, —like **no other** in this whole wide world! Plastic wrapped baskets with Sonoma wines and cheeses, and I don't know what else! I didn't win any of those!! But what a final closing for the day. Lots of winners, and no losers! It was a great day!

Be good to each other there. We need and love each and every one of you!

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# VETERAN'S CORNER

continued from page 26

futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the retired high school math teacher who still wakes up in the middle of the night thinking of the 21 fellow Marine Vietnam Kids he buried 35 years ago while assigned to casualty assistance duty.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another—or didn't come back at all.

He is the Parris Island/San Diego drill instructor that has never seen combat but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy no-account rednecks and gang members into Marines and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade-riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career Quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by but keeps the supply lines full.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all anonymous heroes whose valor dies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket—palsied now and aggravatingly slow—who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being—a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country and who sacrificed his ambitions so others wouldn't have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness. He is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just say "Thank You."

It's the Veteran, not the reporter, who gave us our freedom of the press.

It's the Veteran, not the poet, who gave us our freedom of speech.

It's the Veteran, not the campus organizer, who gave us our freedom to demonstrate.

It's the Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Coast Guard, and Marine who salutes the Flag and whose coffin will one day be draped by the Flag, who allows the protester to burn the Flag.

THANKS, VETS!

## September's Meeting

We had a good turnout but several members were missing. Such as, **Rick Leiphardt**-Asst Sgt at Arms-Excused, **Richard Kalk**-1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander-Excused, **Joe Albright**-Cook-Excused, but we attempted to get along without them. Guess what? Everything went along fine. JJ prepared dinner while the Board met. At 6:25pm we ate... Philadelphia Steak Pizza and a salad with tomatoes, mushrooms, onions and

leaking when the sprinklers turned on. So, they had to empty all the planters and reseal them. We really saved \$\$\$ there didn't we?

## Los Angeles Police Motorcycle Drill Team

### Special Days

November 2—Sunday—Custom Auto Show at the Academy.

November 4—Tuesday—Election Day.

November 9—Sunday—'Berlin Wall Came Tumbling Down' 1989.

November 10—Monday—"United States Marine Corps Birthday"—228

November 11—Tuesday—Veterans Day (FLY YOUR FLAG)

November 12—Wednesday—Monthly Emerald Society meeting 6:30pm-Academy.

November 14—Friday—"The Five Fighting Sullivan's."

November 15—Saturday—Police Remembrance Day

November 16—Sunday—D.P.#12.

November 24—Monday—JJ & Julie Ann Leonard celebrate their 41<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

November 27—Thursday—Thanksgiving Day.

## The Next Meeting of Police Post 381

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, at 'our home away from home' Panorama Post #817 at 13553 Reedley Ave., Panorama City. (East of Woodman Ave & North of Roscoe Bl) The next meeting is November 18, 2003, normal donation of \$5 for dinner. Dinner served at 6:30pm. For information on the meeting, please call Commander Dennis DeNoi at 213-473-8871 or Adjutant Frank Ortiz at (626) 331-4271.

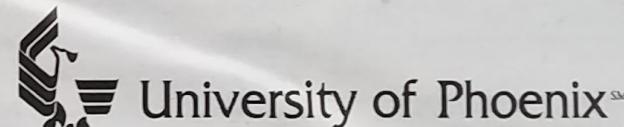
## Freedom of Speech

Something different! Come on...you can do it! Or maybe your Grandkids!?! These are words and names that remind us of freedom of speech! Some words are backward or diagonally. See if you can find these: TRUE< SYMBOLIC< ACT< PROTEST< INFORMED< AMENDMENT< RIGHT< EXPRESS< SPEAK< RESPONSIBILITY< DEBATE< PRESIDENT< LINCOLN< LAW< DOUGLAS< IDEAS< LIMITS. ♦

A	L	T	N	E	D	I	S	E	R	P	B	L	A	W
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almonds... and hot coffee! All other drinks purchased at the bar. The food couldn't have been too bad. **Bill Zimmerman** enjoyed three slices of pizza and there wasn't any pizza or salad left over. Just in case you are getting the wrong idea about attendance - let me explain. Rick had to work, Richard was in Chicago and Joe Albright was instructing at LAPD motor school—they have a new schedule—start at noon and end at 10 p.m. I didn't realize the school motorcycles had lights!?!? Oh, if you haven't been up to EVOC: 'Emergency Vehicle Operation Center', then you don't know about the planters! Seems they were all

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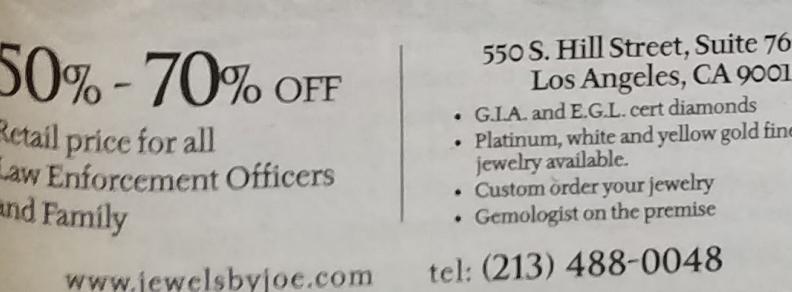
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B03-01

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A00-01

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F-17

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F03-05

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A-8

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K00-02

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E03-04

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G02-03

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L01-05

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I02-03

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E97-02

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G00-02

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D-11

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A-12

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I03-03

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D02-03

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I03-05

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K03-02

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I02-01

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K03-01

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The deadline is always the 6th of the month prior to publication. (For example, March 6th is the deadline for the April issue.) For ad rates, ad sizes, and photograph line screen information, please telephone Mark Deitch & Associates, Inc. at (818) 558-1010.

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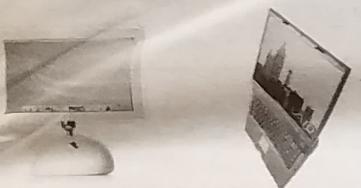
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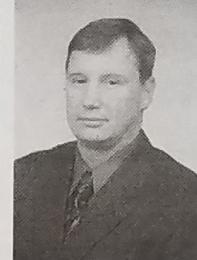


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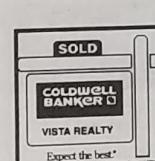
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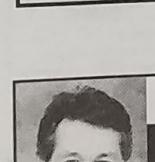
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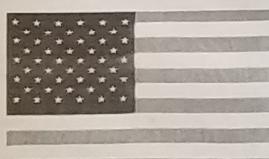
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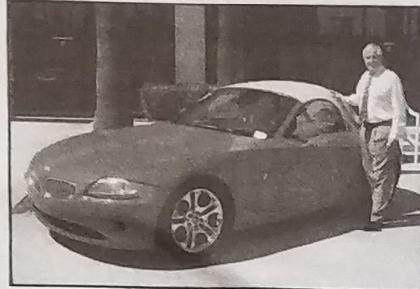
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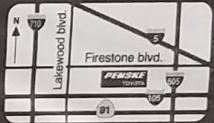
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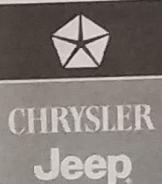
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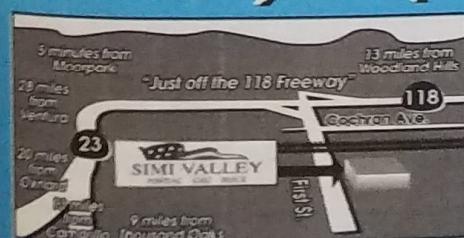
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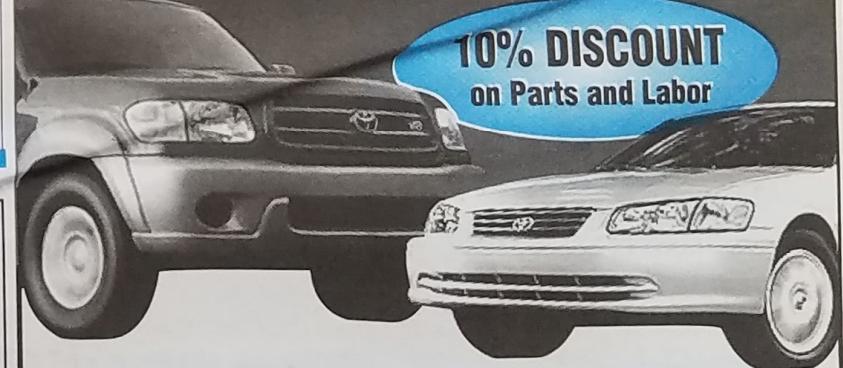
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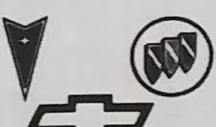
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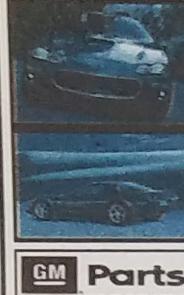
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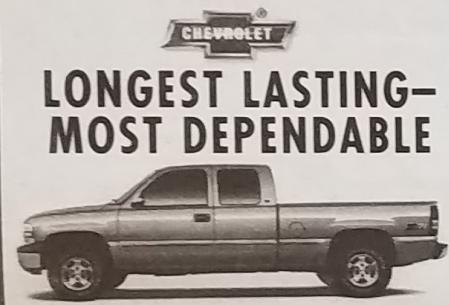
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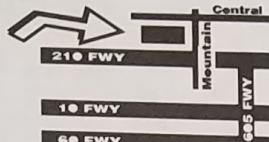
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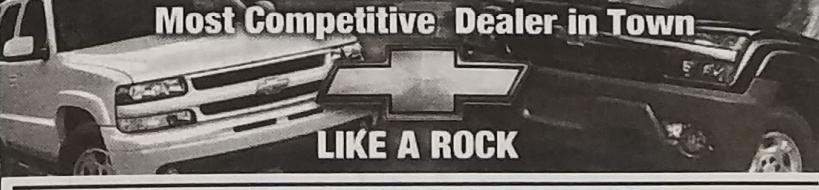
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